



City and Royal Burgh of Dunfermline

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH AND WELFARE
OF DUNFERMLINE

FOR THE YEAR

1956



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HEALTH OF DUNFERMLINE

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BY

C. BARCLAY REEKIE,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health

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Staff.

Health Department

- C. BARCLAY REEKIE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health; Medical Superintendent, West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital; Administrative Medical Officer, Carnegie Dunfermline Trust; and Medical Superintendent, Bandrum Children's Home.
- ROBERT M. WINK, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Depute Medical Officer of Health; Medical Officer, West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital.
- DAVID M. CATHIE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant Medical Officer of Health; Assistant Medical Officer, West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital.
- F. MARGARET ADDLY, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. and S.G., D.P.H., Assistant Medical Officer of Health; Assistant Medical Officer, West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital.

CONSULTANTS.

- ROBERT I. STIRLING, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.—Orthopædic Clinic.
- C. R. DUNCAN LEEDS, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., D.O.M.S.—Eye Clinic.

HEALTH VISITORS.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Miss L. NISBET
(retired 7/9/56). | Miss S. YOUNG. |
| Miss A. M. SOUTAR
(retired 15/5/56). | Miss B. B. KNOX. |
| Miss C. JOHNSTON. | Miss E. STARK. |
| Miss M. C. HOOD. | Miss H. MITCHELL. |
| Miss L. ROBERTSON. | Miss A. E. MITCHELL
(appointed 30/4/56). |
| Miss B. L. CRICHTON. | M'ss G. M. COWAN
(appointed 23/7/56). |
| Miss A. S. MOIR. | Miss M. E. THOMAS
(appointed 1/8/56). |
| Miss H. ROBERTSON
(resigned 24/11/56). | Miss M. M. DUNSIRE
(appointed 5/11/56). |
| Miss H. L. PATERSON. | Mrs. H. W. BOWMAN
(appointed temporarily 24/10/56). |
| Miss L. STONELEY. | |
| Miss E. McKEE. | |

The above-named are trained nurses and with three exceptions hold the Health Visitor's Certificate.

HOME NURSING AND DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY STAFF.

- Miss M. E. DICKSON.
- Miss J. MacGREGOR.
- Miss D. DUNCAN
(resigned 9/7/56).
- Miss D. BURT
(resigned 29/6/56).
- Mrs. D. BROWN
(resigned 19/10/56).

Dunfermline :

- Miss I. BEATON
(appointed 13/8/56).
- Miss P. MacDONALD
(appointed 13/8/56).
- Mrs. S. SLATER
S.C.M. Certificate only
(Part-time).

Rosyth :

- Miss I. W. SINCLAIR.

- Miss B. McKENZIE
(appointed 13/8/56).

Part-time Domiciliary Midwives :

- Mrs L. BEVERIDGE.

- Mrs E. COX.

The above-named have S.C.M. Certificate only.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

Mrs I. FISHLEY, Supervisor.

DAY NURSERIES.

Miss I. FISHER, R.G.N., S.C.M., Matron.
Broomhead and Rosyth Nurseries.

STAFF—HEALTH DEPARTMENT—(Continued).**CLERICAL STAFF.**

Miss J. G. ERSKINE,
Administrative Assistant.
Mrs. S. PRENTICE.
Miss C. CARSTAIRS.
Miss F. ARMER
(resigned 28/7/56).
Miss S. BEST.

Miss A. MITCHELL.
(re-appointed 26/7/56).
Miss F. AITKEN.
Miss I. KIMBER.
Miss P. KING.
Miss C. GIBBONS.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

WILLIAM ADAMS, M.B., Ch.B., Certifying Officer.
ROBERT C. WALLACE, M.B., Ch.B., Certifying Officer.
BERTRAM FINNIE, Authorised Officer.
GEORGE K. PLUMMER, Authorised Officer.

CARNEGIE DUNFERMLINE TRUST STAFF ENGAGED IN THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Miss MADELINE G. LESLIE, L.D.S., R.C.S.—Dentist.
J. JAMIESON LEASK, L.D.S., R.C.S.—Dentist.
Miss AGNES B. WHITE, C.S.P.—Physiotherapist.
Miss N. WOOD—Speech Therapist.

Secretary: Miss M. C. McLAREN.

Sanitary Department.

ALEXANDER H. DUNCAN, M.R.S.H., M.Inst.P.C., M.I.T.A., Chief Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Cleansing.
DONALD MACKAY, Depute Chief Sanitary Inspector and Depute Inspector of Cleansing.
JAMES CUNNINGHAM, First Assistant Sanitary Inspector (appointed 2/1/56).
WILLIAM ELLIS, Second Assistant Sanitary Inspector.
KENNETH N. FRASER, Third Assistant Sanitary Inspector.
PETER K. FRANKLIN, Additional Assistant Sanitary Inspector (appointed 10/12/56 after demobilisation).
JOHN DOUGLAS HENDRY, Senior Apprentice.
JOHN HUNTER, Junior Apprentice.
Miss MARGARET W. CHALMERS, Senior Shorthand/Typist Clerkess.
Mrs. JEAN C. HOTCHKIES, Clerkess.
Miss MARTHA D. MILLER, Junior Shorthand/Typist Clerkess.
Miss MORAG HARLEY, Clerkess.

Social Services Department.

G. K. PLUMMER, F.I.S.W., Social Services Officer.
BERTRAM FINNIE, First Assistant.
Miss CHRISTIAN REDDIE, Second Assistant.
FRANCIS J. TAIT, Third Assistant.
Miss AGNES OLIPHANT, Shorthand Typist/Clerkess.
Miss MARION THOMSON, Junior Shorthand Typist/Clerkess.

RESIDENTIAL HOMES.

Miss ELIZABETH BEATTIE, Matron, Davaar.
Miss JEAN SHARP, Matron, Garvock House.
WILLIAM T. MEAD and Mrs. RUBY E. MEAD, Superintendent and Matron, Luscar (resigned 11/6/56).
WILLIAM B. C. THOMSON and Mrs. MARGARET THOMSON, Superintendent and Matron, Luscar (appointed 16/5/56).
STANLEY MOIR and Mrs. MABEL MOIR, Superintendent and Matron, Garthdee (resigned 30/11/56).
WILLIAM A. MACASKILL and Mrs. CRISSY F. MACASKILL, Superintendent and Matron, Garthdee (appointed 17/12/56).

*To the Provost, Magistrates, and Councillors of the
City and Royal Burgh of Dunfermline, and to
the Department of Health for Scotland.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual
Report on the Health and Welfare of Dunfermline.

To all who so loyally co-operated with me in the work, I avail
myself of this opportunity of making grateful acknowledgment.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

C. BARCLAY REEKIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Carnegie Clinic,
Dunfermline, July 1957.

Summary of Vital Statistics.

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, and 1956:—

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Population	45,041	45,215	45,314	45,052	45,193	45,654
Number of Deaths (corrected) . . .	492	469	495	466	496	478
Death-rate per 1000 population (corrected and adjusted for age and sex distribution)	11.1	10.6	11.8	11.1	11.9	11.3
Deaths of infants under 1 year . . .	25	17	28	16	22	24
Infantile mortality rate per 1000 live births	34	24	41	21	29	30
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks . .	17	13	12	14	16	18
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1000 live births	23	18	18	19	21	22
Number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis	11	7	7	4	6	2
Number of deaths from tuberculosis (all forms)	11	8	9	5	7	4
Death-rate per 1000 population from pulmonary tuberculosis	0.24	0.15	0.15	0.09	0.13	0.04
Death-rate per 1000 population from all forms of tuberculosis . . .	0.24	0.18	0.20	0.11	0.15	0.09
Death-rate per 1000 population from the principal epidemic diseases..	0.09	0.04	0.09	0.04	0.02	0.0
Marriage-rate per 1000 population ..	9.9	9.3	8.3	9.4	10.2	9.7
Number of live births registered (corrected)	746	716	680	746	768	809
Number of still-births registered (corrected)	24	23	17	20	21	19
Live birth-rate per 1000 population,	16.6	15.8	15.0	16.6	17.0	17.7
Illegitimate births per 100 live births,	4.8	3.6	5.7	3.8	3.6	4.7
Maternal mortality rate (maternal deaths per 1000 live and still-births)	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.0

The Year: A Brief Commentary.

Once again it is my annual privilege to report to you on the state and progress of the Health and Welfare of Dunfermline.

A periodic stocktaking is a healthy exercise, necessary for other organisations besides business. Perhaps the chief value is that, one has to draw back and see the particular wood as distinct from the confusion of trees that are the daily preoccupation.

The statistics of the year show that the general health of the community was satisfactory and that the various indices by which we measure health continue to improve.

Outstanding was the fact that for the first time in the history of Dunfermline there were no deaths from the principal epidemic diseases; also for the second successive year there was no maternal mortality, during a period when the birth rate was at its highest for some considerable time.

The year statistically, therefore, was not without event. It is heartening to report that the incidence of tuberculosis after a remarkable drop in the previous year, remained comparatively static and the mortality rate was at the incredibly low figure of 0.09 for all forms of the disease—the lowest on record. More cases of early treatable disease are being discovered. The advances in modern chemotherapy allied to the older established methods of tuberculosis control have in the last few years created a rapidly changing situation. Waiting lists have been abolished, as beds are now readily available for treatment. B.C.G. Vaccination against tuberculosis of children approaching school leaving age continued and 771 children in this category were dealt with.

With regard to the incidence of infectious diseases, the main features may be summarised as follows:—

	No. of Cases.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1956.	1955.		
Cerebro-spinal fever	2	3	—	1
Dysentery	6	19	—	13
Erysipelas	13	9	4	—
Measles	579	634	—	55
Paratyphoid B. fever	—	4	—	4
Pneumonia, broncho-	45	47	—	2
Pneumonia, influenzal	2	2	—	—
Pneumonia, lobar	72	53	19	—
Poliomyelitis	2	2	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	1	1	—	—
Scarlet fever	40	36	4	—
Tuberculosis, pulmonary	30	25	5	—
Tuberculosis, non-pulmonary	8	4	4	—
Whooping cough	42	5	37	—

It will be noted that apart from the prevalence of measles for the second year in succession, the incidence of infectious diseases was exceptionally low.

Diphtheria continues to be conspicuous by its absence. The state of immunity remains at a high level and for the ninth year in succession the disease has not occurred. No death has been recorded from diphtheria for twelve years.

During the year, the Department of Health for Scotland made poliomyelitis vaccine available for children aged two to nine years. Owing to production difficulties the vaccine was in short supply and available only during May and June for 577 children. Registration in the form of written consent was obtained in respect of 4,485 children representing 76 per cent. of the eligible population. This was the highest figure among the twenty-four large burghs of Scotland which returned an average of 29 per cent.

The new Blacklaw Child Welfare Clinic came into operation at the beginning of the year, and to some extent as a result of this, the attendances at child welfare clinics generally rose to still higher levels than have previously been recorded.

At the other end of the scale, more was accomplished in the health care of the elderly. The number of elderly citizens being visited by health visitors rose to 676, approximately twice the number of the previous year. The health visitors were able to offer advice and guidance about health and social problems and acted as initiators and co-ordinators of the health services and social services required by individuals.

It is still the endeavour of those who serve in the Health and Welfare Departments to instil into their work the sense of a personal factor, which does much towards the creation of confidence, security, and happiness in the community. Indeed, it would be a soulless task if we were concerned from year to year only with the improvement of statistics. The response of the citizens to the services that were offered indicates that we achieved some measure of success during what may be termed a satisfactory year.

ANNUAL REPORT.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.—The population as estimated by the Registrar General to 30th June 1956 was 45,654, being an increase of 461 over the figure for 1955.

Births.—The live births registered after correction for transfers were 809, equivalent to a birth-rate of 17.7 per thousand of population as compared with 17.0 in the preceding year. The rate for Scotland was 18.5 per thousand population.

It is of interest to compare the figures with those of previous years:—

1926-1930	Average Birth-rate	16.9
1931-1935	Do.	16.3
1936-1940	Do.	15.8
1941-1945	Do.	18.2
1946-1950	Do.	18.3
1951-1955	Do.	16.2
1956	Birth-rate	17.7

The number of still-births registered after correction for transfers during the year was 19, giving a rate of 23 per thousand total births. The number of still-births registered for a number of years past, with the corresponding rates per thousand total births, are as follows:—

		Still-births.	Rate per thousand total births.
1941-1945	Average	26	31
1946-1950	Do.	25	29
1951-1955	Do.	21	28
1956	19	23

Deaths.—The deaths registered after correction for transfers were 478, which is equivalent to a death-rate of 10.5. The death-rate (adjusted for age and sex distribution) was 11.3. The figure of 10.5 compares with 12.0 for Scotland and 11.5 for the large

burghs. The following are the figures for preceding years (adjusted for age and sex distribution):—

1926-1930	Average Death-rate	12.2
1931-1935	Do.	12.3
1936-1940	Do.	12.6
1941-1945	Do.	11.8
1946-1950	Do.	11.4
1951-1955	Do.	11.3
1956	Death-rate	11.3

Deaths from Infectious Diseases.—There were no deaths from the ordinary infectious diseases.

Deaths from Cancer.—The deaths from cancer were 81, which is equivalent to a death-rate of 1.77 as compared with 1.72 for the previous year.

The following are the death-rates from cancer for a number of years:—

1931-1935	Average	1.48
1936-1940	Do.	1.38
1941-1945	Do.	1.49
1946-1950	Do.	1.65
1951-1955	Do.	1.63
1956	Rate	1.77

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

Maternal Mortality.—There were no deaths.

Infantile Mortality.—During 1956 there were 24 deaths among children under 1 year of age as compared with 22 in 1955. The infant mortality rate for the year was 30 per 1000 live births, which compares with the rate of 29 for Scotland as a whole and 30 for the large burghs during the same period.

The following are the figures for previous years so far as they are available:—

1916-1920	Average infantile mortality rate	85
1921-1925	Do. do.	79
1926-1930	Do. do.	67
1931-1935	Do. do.	58
1936-1940	Do. do.	59
1941-1945	Do. do.	57
1946-1950	Do. do.	42
1951-1955	Do. do.	30
1956	Infantile mortality rate	30

A detailed study of the deaths in this period of life reveals the following facts:—Of the total deaths 18 (75 per cent.) occurred in the neo-natal period, that is during the first four weeks of life, and were due to prematurity 8, congenital malformations 4, pulmonary hyaline membrane 2, pneumonia of new born 2, cerebral haemorrhage 1, and pulmonary haemorrhage 1. The remaining 6 deaths were of infants over four weeks of age and were due to congenital heart disease 2, asphyxia (accidental) 1, infantile eczema 1, prematurity 1, and septicaemia 1.

A more accurate indication of the mortality associated with birth is obtained by considering the neo-natal deaths and still-births together. The peri-natal rate (combined still-birth and neo-natal death rates per 1000 total births) is 45.

Expectant Mothers.—Health visitors discover expectant mothers in the course of visits to the homes for other purposes. They satisfy themselves that adequate arrangements have been made for care and supervision and give advice and training in mothercraft.

Seventy-eight per cent. of the women arranged to be confined in the maternity hospital, where the Consultant Obstetrician supervised their ante-natal and post-natal care. General practitioners also referred cases to the Obstetrician for consultation.

Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics.—The ante-natal department of the Maternity Hospital held seven clinic sessions a week throughout the year. At the ante-natal clinic 629 women made 7,357 attendances, showing an increase of 73 from the previous year in the number of women attending and an increase of 488 in the total number of attendances. At the post-natal clinic 624 women made 1,347 attendances, showing an increase of 39 and 42 respectively. Blood was taken from all new patients for the Wasserman reaction and Rhesus factor determination.

District Nurses Ante-natal Clinic.—A room in the Carnegie Clinic and a room in the Rosyth Nurses' Home are reserved for the use of the district nurses, where they hold ante-natal sessions for women who are to be confined at home. During the year 171 women made 643 attendances, showing an increase of 48 and 265 respectively.

Maternity packs are issued from the Health Department on demand for domiciliary confinement. One hundred and eighty-four packs were issued during the year.

Twelve maternity outfits were supplied on loan to suitable cases on application by midwives only. The outfits consist of bed linen and towels, and are for use for a period of three weeks from the date of confinement.

Child Welfare Clinics.—There are seven child welfare clinics.

The new Blacklaw Child Welfare Clinic was completed and came into occupation in January. This is a spacious building designed for the purpose, pleasantly decorated and furnished, which will prove a valuable asset to the rapidly expanding area which it serves.

The following table shows the attendances during the year at each of the clinics:—

	AGE GROUP	Baldrigeburn	Inglis Street	Kingseat	Nethertown	Rosyth	Townhill	Blacklaw	Totals	
Number of children who attended and who on the date of their first attendance were :—	Under 1 year	187	213	16	145	327	111	211	1,210	2,320
	Over 1 year	147	146	35	144	271	149	218	1,110	
Total number of attendances by children	Under 1 year	1,813	1,737	157	1,799	2,950	1,016	1,593	11,065	15,717
	Over 1 year	544	640	183	800	1,301	411	773	4,652	

The total number of children attending and the total number of attendances made show an increase of 3 and 138 respectively over the figures for the previous year.

The child welfare clinics are an integral part of the community life and are open to all mothers for advice on the welfare and management of their children. The emphasis is on the maintenance of health and every endeavour is made to give a knowledge of correct feeding and child management.

It is estimated that 76 per cent. of the children born and resident within Dunfermline attended clinics during their first year of life, and further that 50 per cent. of all children under 5 years of age attended clinics during that age period.

Advice was given regarding the following conditions:—

Circulatory system defects	5	Orthopaedic defects	97
Congenital abnormalities	30	Parasitic intestinal conditions .. .	10
Dental caries	15	Phimosis	14
Dermatological conditions	277	Reaction to vaccination and inocu- lation	19
Ear, nose, and throat defects .. .	256	Respiratory infections	105
Gastro-intestinal conditions	98	Speech defects	1
Infectious diseases	3	Surgical conditions	36
Injuries	22	Teething difficulties	87
Mastitis	6	Thrush	13
Mental deficiency	2	Unhealed umbilicus	43
Neurological defects	11	Urinary system defects	32
Nutritional defects	224	Umbilical hernia	14
Ophthalmic defects	117		

During the year there was a total of 506 prescriptions issued at the clinics.

Food and Milk.—A variety of foods were made available in the clinics at concession rates.

The following table shows the quantity of foods supplied to expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age during the year:—

Food.	Total quantities supplied.
Cow & Gate	9,248 lbs.
Virol	583 lbs.
Malto'ine	106 lbs.
Farex	378 lbs.
Tw'n Pack (Cereal)	233 lbs.
Groats	77 lbs.
Lactagol	31 packets.
Colact	91 lbs.
Rosehip Syrup	1,561 bottles.

The total cost of baby foods purchased during the year was £1,740, 4s. 9d., all of which was recovered.

Welfare Foods.—The main issuing centre is located at the Health Department, Carnegie Clinic, Pilmuir Street. Foods are on issue Mondays to Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

Subsidiary distribution takes place at each of the child welfare clinics during their normal working periods.

Bulk stores are kept at the Health Department and smaller supplies are held at the respective child welfare clinics.

During the year the following welfare foods were distributed:—

National dried milk	24,514 tins.
Cod liver oil	7,949 bottles.
A and D vitamin tablets	2,613 packets.
Orange juice	41,571 bottles.

Compared with the distribution during 1955 there is a reduction in uptake of 821 tins of National dried milk. It would appear that other infant foods find more favour and are recommended from institutional quarters. The uptake of cod liver oil showed a decrease of 336 bottles; A and D vitamin tablets showed an increase of 113 packets and for orange juice there was a considerable additional demand amounting to 3,840 bottles.

Distribution of welfare foods is undertaken by members of the permanent establishment with only one exception — Rosyth Child Welfare Clinic where we are indebted to the following members of the Women's Voluntary Services for their assistance:—

Mrs. BENZIE.
Mrs. DOWNES.
Mrs. FOXWORTHY.
Mrs. SMEARDEN.

Voluntary Workers.—A number of ladies regularly give their services as voluntary workers at the child welfare clinics. Their help, particularly with regard to clerical work, is of great assistance to the health visitors and materially lightens their work. It is again a pleasure to express deep gratitude for their loyal and valuable service to the community.

During the year assistance was received from:—

Mrs. ANDERSON	}	At Rosyth Clinic
Mrs. ARMSTRONG		
Mrs. RENNIE		
Mrs. LAMERTON		
Miss LEADBETTER	}	At Inglis Street Clinic.
Mrs. HARGREAVES		
Mrs. MORTON		
Miss ROBERTSON		
Miss B. ROBERTSON	}	At Nethertown Clinic.
Mrs. RUTHERFORD		
Miss LEADBETTER		At Baldrigeburn Clinic.

Day Nurseries.—There are two nurseries situated at Broomhead and Rosyth, providing full daytime care for children up to five years of age for five and a half days per week. They are primarily for children whose mothers are in employment, ill, or being confined. The children are medically inspected at monthly intervals.

The charge is from two to five shillings per day according to circumstances.

Broomhead provides accommodation for 62 children and Rosyth for 40 children.

Both nurseries are approved training schools for the Nursery Nurses Certificate and work in conjunction with the McCrone Pre-Nursing School. In the course of the year 3 students obtained the certificate.

BROOMHEAD.

Attendances:

Children under 2 years—

Total number of attendances 3,005

Children over 2 years—

Total number of attendances 8,619

Receipts, £2,114, 1s. 6d.

ROSYTH.

Attendances:

Children under 2 years—

Total number of attendances 1,529

Children over 2 years—

Total number of attendances 5,333

Receipts, £1,112, 1s.

The attendances at the two nurseries show a decrease of 250 from the number for the previous year, and the payment receipts an increase of £133, 16s. 0d.

Treatment Clinics.—The various school clinics also cater for pre-school children, and the number treated during the year is shown in the following tables:—

General Clinic.

	Number of Cases.	Number of Attendances.
Ear, nose and throat	130	152
Eye	17	29
Skin	72	178
Other conditions	203	268
Ultra-violet light	33	648
Orthopaedic	152	681
Defective speech	16	213
Totals	623	2,169

Dental Clinic.

Number of cases 243
 Number of attendances 305

Specialist Clinics.—The specialist clinics attached to the school health service are available to children under school age.

Mr. Robert I. Stirling, F.R.C.S., is the Consulting Orthopaedic Specialist, and during the year he examined 67 children.

Fifty-five children were seen by various Consultants to the ear, nose, and throat clinic during the year. Mr. C. R. Duncan Leeds, F.R.C.S., D.O.M.S., is the Consultant in charge of the eye clinic. Twenty-nine children were examined, 7 re-examined, and 15 children had glasses fitted in the course of the year. The Specialists are available at the following intervals:—Orthopaedic, monthly; ear, nose, and throat, monthly; eye, weekly.

The services of Dr. R. A. Miller, Paediatrician, in a consultative capacity were available at the Northern Hospital, Dunfermline, during the year. Copies of his reports on the examination of all Dunfermline children are forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health.

Routine Examination of Children (1-5 years of age).—The routine medical examination of children (1-5 years of age) continued throughout the year. The system adopted is similar to that pertaining to school medical inspection. Special sessions are held at the various child welfare clinics, the parents are notified, and the children examined by appointment. The scheme meets with a good response.

During the year 74 sessions were held and 1,179 children were examined. A total of 518 children were discovered to be suffering from some form of defect and appropriate treatment was initiated. Of that number 95 were referred to Specialists. The main defective conditions were pertaining to ear, nose, and throat 175, and the skeletal system 175. Once more a remarkable feature was the absence of nutritional defects which numbered only 15.

This scheme has been in existence for four and a half years and is a valuable preventive measure in the detection of early signs of disease before the onset of structural changes and is now showing a definite effect on the health of the school entrant group, with a diminution of the numbers found to be suffering from remediable defects. The medical officers undertaking the examinations are also the school medical officers and are virtually child health officers responsible for the health both of the pre-school and school child.

Care of Premature Infants.—To ensure the care of premature infants an arrangement has been made to admit women in premature labour as emergencies to the Maternity Hospital whenever possible. If the mother and infant have to remain at home, special equipment for the care of the infant is issued on loan from the Health

Department and supervision maintained by the appropriate authority's nursing services.

Dental Care.—There are now two school Dental Officers, and they treated 243 pre-school children who made 305 attendances. Priority was given to the needs of the school population as there was much leeway to be made up owing to so long a period with only one Dental Officer.

Mothers and young children are referred to dental practitioners of their own choice.

Prevention of Break-up of Families.—It was recognised in implementing the terms of D.H.S. Circular 77/1954 that, the health visitor occupies a strategic position in ascertaining the probable break-up of families, consequently the establishment of health visitors was increased by two, an over-all increase to enable each health visitor on the staff to deal with her own area. This was felt to be important because she has unobtrusive access to the homes which she visits at her discretion without waiting to be summoned and can readily detect the early signs of probable disruption of family life.

Where the problem is due to dirt and neglect the health visitor keeps the household on the alert by frequent and unheralded visitation and prevents further deterioration; where the mother of a family is suffering from mental strain, the health visitor is a readily accessible confidant and can be of psychological assistance in relieving the mother's mind of worries and problems she feels she cannot discuss with others, then when illness attacks a household advice can be given about the various facilities available to needs. These are but a few examples of circumstances where help can be given, circumstances which if disregarded lead to further deterioration and eventual disruption, but if tackled in the early stages enable borderline families to remain within the bounds of normality.

The aid of the Social Services Officer and Children's Officer is frequently enlisted by the health visitors and vice versa. This is easily done as the family services are housed in the same administrative building. Concerted effort is very often the key-note of success and salvation.

The crux of the situation is sufficiency of health visitors, so that each in her district has adequate time available for "problem" and "borderline" families together with co-operation with other departments.

As happy families are seldom head-line news, it is difficult to give concrete evidence of this side of the work.

Children's Homes. — There are no residential nurseries provided by the Town Council under Section 22 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947.

Under the provisions of the Children Act, a mansion house in the vicinity of Dunfermline named the Martha Frew Children's Home provides approximately 34 places for deprived children.

The medical supervision of the Home is undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health. The Health Department medical staff examine the children prior to admission and attend to their medical needs while resident.

Bandrum Children's Convalescent Home.—By arrangement between Dunfermline Town Council and the South-Eastern Regional Hospital Board, the Medical Officer of Health acts as Medical Superintendent of this institution.

Children requiring a period of convalescence are admitted from the various hospitals serving the West Fife area, from the child welfare and school clinics or by recommendation from their own family doctor. They are all debilitated and ailing from various causes, their chief need being ample rest and quiet, regular hours of sleep, good food, and fresh air.

At the beginning of the year 17 children were in residence and 152 were admitted during the year, making a total of 169 children (95 boys and 74 girls). The average duration of stay was 42 days. The average gain in weight was 3 lbs. 6 ozs.

Children Acts, 1937-1948. — The number of children registered under the Child Life Protection provisions of the above mentioned Acts on 1st January 1956, was 5. One was added to the register and one was removed from the register during the year. The number on the roll at the end of the year was 5.

The Health Visitors are Child Life Protection Visitors and made 8 visits to these children.

MIDWIFERY.

Two hundred and three applications for maternity services were received during the year, which compares with 204 for the previous year. One hundred and seventy-five confinements were conducted under Section 23 (2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947, as compared with 171 during 1955. In addition 20 cases who received ante-natal care from the domiciliary midwives were later removed to hospital for confinement. Two emergency cases were confined at home and later removed to the Maternity Hospital.

The staff engaged in the service consisted of 2 full-time midwives and the part-time employment of 2 midwives in private practice.

Applicants for this service approach the midwife of their choice, who in turn notifies the Medical Officer of Health as soon as a case is accepted. Record forms are then issued to the midwife, who returns them on completion of the confinement.

The registers, temperature charts, and appliances of all midwives practising within the burgh were inspected and the midwives interviewed by the Obstetrician. Private practising midwives were also supervised by the health visitors.

The district nursing sisters of Dunfermline district conduct ante-natal sessions in a room reserved for the purpose in the Carnegie Clinic; similarly in Rosyth ante-natal sessions are held in the Nurses' Home.

Where housing and social conditions are unsuitable for confinement in the home, women are admitted to the Maternity Hospital. With the improvement in housing conditions, only in two instances was this necessary during the year.

District training for pupil midwives in the Dunfermline Maternity Hospital is undertaken by the senior district nursing sisters, who have been approved as teachers by the Central Midwives' Board. The arrangement makes it possible for the Maternity Hospital to train midwives for Part II of the S.C.M. Certificate and is a valuable contribution towards co-ordinating the work of the Local Authority with that of the Hospital Board. During the year 15 students were trained.

All but one of the domiciliary midwives are qualified to administer gas and air analgesia and trilene. One set of gas and air apparatus and two sets of trilene apparatus were in use during the year. Gas and air analgesia was administered by midwives in 39 cases, trilene in 25 cases, and pethidine in 61 cases. The comparable figures for 1955 were 47, nil, and 108 respectively.

Two houses are provided by the Town Council for the accommodation of the Dunfermline and Rosyth district nurses respectively.

A motor car is provided for the senior nursing sister of the Dunfermline district; apart from this, transport is obtained by the public services. Taxis are engaged when necessary.

The following table gives details of the work done during the year:—

Total No. of Births, including still-births, notified during the year that is before correction for mother's residence	1,676
(i) Cases dealt with under Section 23 (2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947—	
(a) Doctor engaged and present at confinement ..	111
(b) Doctor engaged and not present at confinement.	64
(c) Midwife alone (no doctor engaged)	—
(ii) Other domiciliary cases—	
(a) Doctor engaged	—
(b) Midwife alone (no doctor engaged)	—
(c) Without doctor or midwife	—
(d) All other cases	2
(iii) Cases conducted at Maternity Hospital	1,499

HEALTH VISITING.

The health visitors are all-purpose visitors and their duties are as detailed in previous reports.

The town is sub-divided into districts equivalent to the number of health visitors. In each district the health visitor attends the appropriate clinics and schools and is available to all age-groups, an arrangement which prevents duplication of visits to the same home and enables her to obtain a complete knowledge of each family as a unit, a matter of importance as the duties have been widely extended to embrace the whole field of prevention of ill-health including prevention of mental ill-health. Individual health education in the home of persons and families comprises a large part of the health visitors' work and reliance is placed on this rather than on group education.

There are now approximately 5,000 people of pensionable age in Dunfermline. As the preservation of the health of the elderly is a matter of paramount importance not only to themselves but to the community, visits to old people were considerably extended during the year. Six hundred and seventy-six persons received 1,273 visits, approximately twice the number of the previous year. The Social Services Officer has compiled a list of old people and at the end of the year it contained 1,276 names. Obviously in a new venture such as this, it will take some time to overtake even an initial visit to each person on the list. The purpose is to discover the people who require help and to spread general information of the help available, for example financial aid, medical attention, domestic help, meals-on-wheels, etc. The health visitor is the link through whom both statutory and voluntary services can be set in motion.

Priority in visiting was given to those living alone and to those who were house-bound.

A close liaison exists between the Maternity Hospital, the Infectious Diseases Hospital, and the Tuberculosis Hospitals. A discharge list of mothers and infants is obtained daily by telephone from the Maternity Hospital and they are visited forthwith. Similarly patients discharged from the Infectious Diseases Hospital and Sanatoria are visited.

There is no link up of the health visiting service with the General Hospitals (surgical and medical). These hospitals are requested to notify the Welfare Department of persons over 65 years of age who on discharge appear to be in need of welfare services. It is felt that even greater use might be made by the hospitals of the available services.

The health visitors are available to work in co-operation with general medical practitioners, some of whom ask for assistance in special cases.

The following table is a record of the visits made by health visitors during the year, and shows an increase of 630 visits over the number for the previous year:—

	No. Visited.	Total Visits.
Expectant mothers	323	589
Children under 1 year of age	1,587	12,009
Children between the age of 1 and 5	3,032	14,556
Tuberculosis cases	223	2,684
Other cases	78	119
Elderly people	676	1,273
Totals	5,919	31,230

HOME NURSING.

The combined duties of home nursing and midwifery are undertaken by a staff of six whole-time nurses and one part-time. The whole-time nurses are affiliated to the Queen's Institute of District Nursing and reside in the two houses provided by the Town Council in Dunfermline and Rosyth respectively.

The nursing of patients in their own homes is undertaken on the request and under the direction of medical practitioners, and emergency cases undertaken are subject to their subsequent approval.

Liaison with hospitals is maintained through the general medical practitioner.

The nurses themselves do not maintain a night service for home nursing, but the former Dunfermline Nursing Association Committee provide a night "sitter in" service.

There are no arrangements for the training of pupil nurses in district work.

The home nurses attended and made 16,609 visits to patients in their own homes during the year. The following table gives details of the work:—

	Patients.					Visits.					
	Medical.	Surgical.	Midwifery.	Others.	Totals.	Medical.	Surgical.	Midwifery.	Ante-natal.	Others.	Totals.
Dunfermline	313	51	104	14	482	9,816	1,137	1,790	239	791	13,773
Rosyth... ..	91	30	53	...	174	1,300	641	895	2,336
Totals ...	404	81	157	14	656	11,116	1,778	2,685	239	791	16,609

Two hundred and eighty-six patients were of the age-group sixty-five years and over, and 9,796 visits were made to them. This shows a decrease from the previous year of 30 patients and 507 visits.

There is an ever increasing number of old people living independent lives who find themselves in difficulty when illness occurs. It will be noted that nearly half of the total patients attended, were aged 65 years and over. This involves mainly a heavier type of nursing which takes additional time and leads to staffing difficulties. It is very important that old people should live in their own homes as far as possible, and this is only made practical by the efficiency of the domiciliary medical and nursing care and welfare services.

A considerable amount of injection therapy is being carried out by the nurses. A total of 3,894 injections were given, of which insulin accounted for 2,831.

There appears to be no need for special provision for the domiciliary nursing of sick children. Where children require home nursing, each nurse in her own district is responsible for this.

Medical Loan Depot.—The local branch of the British Red Cross Society maintain within the Health Department a store of selected surgical and medical appliances which are available to the nurses when required.

DOMESTIC HELP.

The scheme for the provision of domestic help for households continues to expand. One hundred and four cases were carried forward from the previous year and 202 new applications were received. Two hundred and sixty-one householders were given assistance on account of the following conditions:—Elderly and infirm 149, chronic sick 34, general illness 46, maternity cases 26, and tuberculosis 6.

At the end of the year 127 householders were in receipt of the service, and 1 whole-time supervisor and 52 part-time domestic helps were employed.

During the year the charge was 2s. 6d. per hour but this is subject to a reduction in cases where financial circumstances warrant it.

Of the 261 persons who received assistance 156 paid full rate, and of the 105 who paid the minimum charge, 80 received additional allowances from the National Assistance Board to enable them to pay this charge.

When an application is received for a domestic help, the Supervisor visits the home immediately, so that a suitable help is detailed for the household in which she is to serve. This is a most important feature and much of the success of the service is due to it as it ensures confidence on both sides from the beginning. It is appreciated that each of the categories of illness requires an individual psychological approach.

The elderly and infirm and chronic sick provide the heaviest demand on the service, a demand which is increasing annually and not likely to diminish as the years go on.

There is no doubt about the great value of this service, which enables people to remain in their own homes, alleviates much human suffering, and in a general way makes a material contribution to the health and welfare of the citizens.

A night "sitter in" service is provided on occasion by the former Dunfermline Nursing Association Committee.

The following is a table showing the number of cases attended and the domestic helps employed since the inauguration of the service:—

	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.
Cases	55	121	168	212	239	261
Domestic Helps Part-time..	13	25	35	42	46	52

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Vaccination against Smallpox.—Details of vaccination notified during the year are as follows:—

	Primary Vaccinations.	Re-vaccinations.
Typical vaccinia greatest at 7th to 10th day ..	561	14
Accelerated (vaccinoid) reaction (5th to 7th day)	4	16
Reaction greatest at 2nd to 3rd day	1	50
No local reaction	35	12
Totals	601	92

Of the 601 persons who received primary vaccination, 392 were children born in 1956 and 186 were children born in 1955. General practitioners notified 135 primary vaccinations and 82 re-vaccinations.

Four hundred and sixty-six primary vaccinations were carried out at the local authority clinics. Compulsion has given way to persuasion, and it is now the task of the family doctor and the Health Department to impress upon parents the necessity to have their children vaccinated against smallpox.

An arrangement continues with the Registrar of Births whereby a special propaganda leaflet prepared by the Medical Officer of Health is given to the parent at the time of registration of a birth. Propaganda is carried out at all the clinics by the medical staff and health visitors, and by the latter in the course of their routine visits to the homes.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.—The state of immunity against the disease continues at a high level. It is estimated that at the end of the year 89 per cent. of all children received protective inoculations. This is a conservative estimate as it is known that some records from general practitioners had not been received. For the ninth year in succession there was no case of diphtheria in Dunfermline.

Immunisation is advised by the health visitors in the course of their routine visits to infants, and the option is given for this to be carried out by the family doctor or at a child welfare clinic; where the mother is unable for any reason to take her child for immunisation or where the parents are indifferent, visits to the homes by the Health Department Medical Staff are arranged and immunisation carried out. Reinforcing inoculations were given to school entrants and again at the age of 10 and 15 years. During the year 882 children were given a full primary course of immunisation against diphtheria and 2,044 children received reinforcing inoculations. One hundred and twenty-five inoculations were given by general practitioners, 2,801 inoculations were given by the Health Department Medical Staff.

Triple Antigen.—Triple antigen has now been in use for almost a complete year. It proves very acceptable to mothers as they now only require to make three attendances in order to provide protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, and tetanus.

Immunisation against Whooping Cough.—Immunisation against whooping cough appears to require little or no propaganda. Parents know the disease and are anxious to adopt any procedure to avoid its hazards.

This year 849 infants were given a full course of protection (661 Triple Antigen, 187 Diphtheria/Pertussis and 1 Whooping cough only).

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.—At present the scheme for vaccination against poliomyelitis applies only to children born between 1947 and 1954 inclusive. It was estimated that there were over 6,000 children in this age group in Dunfermline.

The first stage was registration and for this purpose a parents' consent form was prepared incorporating simple details of the vaccination procedure. Parents of eligible children were contacted by the personal approach of health visitors, by letter, and by advertisement in the Press. Written consent was obtained on behalf of 4,485 children representing 76 per cent. of the eligible population.

Special vaccination sessions were organised at schools and child welfare clinics, the parents notified and the children vaccinated by appointment. Vaccination commenced in May and continued till the end of June, when it was suspended until November in view of the possible prevalence of poliomyelitis during the later summer months. Owing to difficulties of production the vaccine available was limited in quantity. At the end of the year 577 children had completed vaccinations.

PREVENTION, CARE, AND AFTER-CARE.

(a) TUBERCULOSIS.

At all times a close liaison is maintained with the Chest Physician to the West Fife Area, who has his consulting and treatment centre in the Carnegie Clinic.

On receipt of notification, either the initial notification or a "transfer-in" notice, cases are visited by the health visitors. At this visit a full environmental report is taken and details noted concerning all contacts. Advice is given regarding nursing care, fresh air, rest, and adequate nutrition.

Details of all notifications and environmental reports are forwarded to the Chest Physician who informs the Medical Officer of Health of his clinical assessment of each case, and arranges for the investigation of all contacts.

The Chest Physician also supplies special reports concerning pre-school and school children, sputa results, and details of all admissions and discharges from hospital.

Domiciliary Visits.—These are made by the health visitors, as and when required according to the needs of each case. At these visits inquiry is made into the patient's health and welfare, bed bathing is carried out in those cases strictly confined to bed, and where recommended by the Chest Physician, streptomycin injections are given.

During the year 223 persons were visited by the health visitors, and the total number of visits made was 2,684. This compares with 353 persons and 3,302 visits for the previous year.

At these visits opportunity is taken of explaining the scheme of assistance grants payable by the National Assistance Board.

Medical comforts are supplied when considered necessary, and in cases of financial hardship free milk to the extent of 2 pints per day and Virol free of charge are issued.

During the year the following number of patients received free milk:—

In receipt of benefit on 1/1/56.	Granted benefit during the year.	Ceased benefit during the year.	In receipt of benefit on 31/12/56.
43	33	37	39

Three hundred and ninety-seven 8 oz. cartons of Virol were issued during the year.

Bed and bedding and toilet requisites are available on loan to necessitous cases from the Health Department and the Red Cross Depot at the Carnegie Clinic.

Occupational therapy is also encouraged in domiciliary cases and, if desired, representatives of the Red Cross visit the patient's home and supply material for rug making, embroidery, leatherwork, sewing, etc.

A special library scheme is provided for tuberculous patients. The health visitor obtains the names of those desirous of using this service and these are forwarded to the Librarian of the Carnegie Public Library, who arranges for the books to be taken to the homes. During the year only 3 new applications were made for this service.

The Domestic Help Service is available for those cases requiring assistance in maintaining the normal household activities. Six households received assistance during the year.

Hospital Treatment.—Hospital admission for the treatment of respiratory and non-respiratory tuberculosis is no longer associated with any delay, and at the end of the year there was no waiting list.

During the year 40 patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis were treated in the under-mentioned hospitals:—

West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital	18
Ochil Hills Sanatorium	4
Glenlomond Sanatorium	13
Eastern General Hospital, Edinburgh	1
Royal Victoria, Edinburgh	1
East Fortune Sanatorium	1
Bangour Hospital	1
Bridge of Weir	1
Total	40

During the year 6 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were treated in Glenlomond Sanatorium.

Housing.—The importance of a good home environment with no overcrowding is realised and every endeavour is made to see that all tuberculous households are adequately housed. Where the housing conditions are unsatisfactory, high priority is given to re-housing.

During the year 19 families were re-housed.

Disinfection.—Where considered necessary this is carried out on the admission of a patient to hospital and at other times as required. It is undertaken by the Sanitary Inspector's Staff who visit the home, carry out the necessary disinfection, and give general advice.

Households in which there is residing a tuberculous patient may obtain soap and disinfectant free of charge for disinfection purposes.

B.C.G. Vaccination.—Preliminary Mantoux testing and B.C.G. vaccination with conversion Mantoux reading of school leavers was undertaken by the Chest Physician, medical staff, and health visitors of the Health Department.

Consent forms for B.C.G. vaccination and an explanatory leaflet. Leaflet No. 59 of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis—"To Mother and Father—a word from the M.O.H." were given to the school leavers.

Parents are now fully aware of the benefit of B.C.G. vaccination and a very good response was obtained. The co-operation of parents and teachers in this field of preventive medicine is to be commended.

Heaf's multiple puncture apparatus using adrenaalised pure Old Tuberculin, was employed for the Mantoux testing. The method was found to be very satisfactory for dealing with large groups, the test being practically painless and the reactions well defined.

School leavers who were found to have a positive Mantoux in the preliminary testing were screened by the Chest Physician and where considered necessary referred for x-ray examination. No cases of active tuberculosis were detected in this group.

B.C.G. vaccination of all categories, other than school leavers, was performed by the Chest Physician.

The following table shows the numbers tested and vaccinated during the year:—

	Tuberculin tested.		Negative re-actors.		Vaccinated during 1956.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
(1) Nurses	—	18	—	3	—	3
(2) Medical Students	—	—	—	—	—	—
(3) Contacts	41	60	33	46	32	40
(4) Special Groups not included in (1) to (3) above:—						
(a) School leavers.	367	404	306	322	306	322
(b) New born babies	—	—	—	—	8	4
(5) Others	—	—	—	—	—	—
(6) No. of school children re-tested two years after B.C.G. vaccination	152	132	4	2	—	—

Mass Radiography.—A Mass Radiography Unit visited the burgh during the year for the purpose of examining contacts only as there was a considerable waiting list for appointments at the Dunfermline and West Fife Hospital which could not be undertaken owing to pressure of work there.

There were no sessions for the general public.

(b) EPILEPTICS AND SPASTICS.

There is no further information to report other than the details supplied in 1954.

(c) CHIROPODY.

A chiropody service is not provided directly by the local authority but this need is met by two voluntary organisations, Dunfermline District Nursing Association and the Dunfermline and Rosyth Old People's Welfare Committee.

Under the auspices of these organisations a chiropody clinic is available in Dunfermline and in Rosyth; and if required home visits for treatment are arranged.

As might be expected the elderly use this service most, and there is no doubt that proper care of the feet plays an important role in the old people's welfare.

(d) PREVENTION OF HOME ACCIDENTS.

The Registrar-General gives a provisional figure of 11 fatal accidents in the home for the year 1956.

The extent of non-fatal accidents is not accurately known but from observation in hospital, it would appear to involve mainly burning and scalding among children and falls among elderly people.

There is no Home Safety Committee.

The health visitors in the course of their normal duties devote considerable time and emphasis to teaching accident prevention in the home. They visit the homes of practically all young children and an ever increasing number of the homes of the elderly. Propaganda literature is distributed particularly the leaflet "Death Traps in the Home."

(e) HEALTH EDUCATION.

At all times, whether in the clinic or in the home, the health visitors take every opportunity to foster the principles of healthy living and accident prevention.

During the year members of the Health Department spoke on various health topics to Women's Guilds and Clubs. It has been found by experience that addressing such pre-formed audiences is a more rewarding method than attempting large scale film shows or public meetings. The audience is more interested and there is greater opportunity of answering individual questions.

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The corrected total number of cases of notifiable infectious diseases (including all forms of tuberculosis) during the year was 851 of which 16 were Service cases.

The highest number of notifications occurred in the last quarter.

Chickenpox.—Ten cases were intimated. In one instance the diagnosis was not confirmed. This gives a corrected total of 9 confirmed cases. Seven were from the Services. All cases were treated in hospital.

Dysentery.—Eleven cases of bacillary dysentery were notified. In 8 instances the diagnosis was not confirmed. To the 3 confirmed cases should be added one case notified as cerebro-spinal fever, one case as broncho-pneumonia and one case as gastro-enteritis. This gives a corrected total of 6 confirmed cases. All cases were treated in hospital.

Erysipelas.—Thirteen cases of erysipelas were notified. Eight were treated in hospital.

DETAILS OF THE CORRECTED NOTIFICATIONS AND INTIMATIONS ARE SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE:—

	Cerebro-spinal fever.	Chickenpox.	Dysentery.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Pneumonia, broncho	Pneumonia, influenzal.	Pneumonia, lobar.	Poliomylitis, acute.	Puerperal pyrexia.	Scarlet fever.	Tuberculosis— pulmonary.	Tuberculosis— non-pulmonary.	Whooping cough.	Totals.
January	1	4	1	6	...	1	13	2	1	2	1
February	2	1	...	15	2	3	3	3	39
March	...	7	...	1	3	7	...	21	5	47
April	1	1	14	1	...	7	1	32
May	1	34	2	...	3	3	1	1	24
June	...	2	1	...	15	1	...	3	2	3	2
July	2	21	2	3	48
August	20	2	...	1	1	...	3	3	2	5	26
September	1	46	2	...	5	1	3	33
October	1	...	142	1	...	2	2	3	2	13	37
November	1	203	2	...	8	4	...	2	4	58
December	2	80	6	...	1	...	1	2	4	...	14	2
Totals	2	7	6	13	579	45	2	8	2	1	40	30	8	42	16
	...	9	72	851

Figures in black denote Service cases and are included in the totals.

Gastro-enteritis.—Fifteen cases of this condition were intimated. In 8 instances the diagnosis was not confirmed. To the 7 confirmed cases should be added 6 cases notified as dysentery. This gives a corrected total of 13. All cases were treated in hospital. One was a Service case.

Measles.—Although only the first case occurring in the household is notifiable 585 cases were notified. In 8 instances the diagnosis was not confirmed. To the 577 confirmed cases should be added two notified as scarlet fever, giving a corrected total of 579 confirmed cases. Sixteen cases were treated in hospital. There were no deaths. There was one Service case.

Meningitis.—Six cases of this condition were notified during the year, and of these 2 were meningococcal in origin. All cases were treated in hospital. There were 2 deaths from non-meningococcal meningitis.

Pneumonia.—(a) Broncho-pneumonia. Fifty-one cases of this condition were notified during the year and in 8 instances the diagnosis was not confirmed. To the 43 confirmed cases should be added 2 cases notified as bronchitis. This gives a corrected total of 45 cases. Twenty-eight cases occurred in children under 15 years of age. All cases were treated in hospital.

(b) Lobar pneumonia. Seventy-six cases of lobar pneumonia were notified during the year and in seven instances the diagnosis was not confirmed, leaving a total of 69 cases. To this must be added 2 cases notified as meningitis and one case as food poisoning. This gives a corrected total of 72 cases. There were 8 Service cases. Fifty-nine cases were treated in hospital.

(c) Influenzal pneumonia. Two cases were notified during the year and were treated in hospital.

The number of deaths at different age groups from all forms of pneumonia, excluding pneumonia of the new born, is shown as follows:—

Age.	Number.
Under 1 year	—
1- 5 years	1
5-15 years	—
15-25 years	—
25-45 years	1
45-65 years	1
65-75 years	2
75-85 years	4
85 years and over	2
Total	11

Poliomyelitis.—Two cases of acute poliomyelitis were notified and were removed to hospital.

Puerperal pyrexia.—One case of puerperal pyrexia was notified during the year.

Rubella.—Three cases of rubella were intimated and confirmed. To these 3 should be added 6 cases notified as measles and 2 cases notified as scarlet fever, giving a confirmed total of 11.

Nine of the cases were Service personnel. All were treated in hospital.

Scarlet fever.—Forty-eight cases of scarlet fever were notified and in 8 instances the diagnosis was not confirmed. This gives a corrected total of 40 cases, showing an increase of 6 cases over the number for last year. All cases were treated in hospital. There were no deaths.

Six persons who were contacts, and whose employment necessitated the handling of food supplies were temporarily suspended from work whilst awaiting clearance throat swabs.

Tuberculosis.—(a) Pulmonary. The number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis on the register at the beginning of the year was 320. During the year 30 cases (13 males and 17 females) were notified. Sixteen cases were added to the register from other areas, 4 cases were re-admitted, 25 left the district, 24 cases were removed from the register, and 4 of the cases on the register died. There thus remained on the register at the end of the year 317 cases. In 4 instances the diagnosis was unconfirmed, giving a corrected figure of 313 confirmed cases (161 males and 152 females).

The total of 30 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year compared with 25 for the previous year and 39 for the average of the last 5 years.

Age Groups.	Notifications.			
	1955.		1956.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
1- 5 years	1	—	—	1
5-15 years	1	2	—	2
15-25 years	2	3	2	4
25-35 years	1	3	1	6
35-45 years	4	1	1	3
45-65 years	4	1	7	—
65 years and upwards	—	2	2	1
Totals	13	12	13	17
Both Sexes	25		30	

Two deaths were registered during the year due to pulmonary tuberculosis. The death rate for tuberculosis of the respiratory system was 0.04 per 1000 of the estimated population.

(b) Non-pulmonary. The number of cases on the register at the beginning of the year was 46. During the year 8 cases (2 males and 6 females) were notified. Four cases were added to the register from other areas, and one case was re-admitted. Ten cases were removed from the register, 4 transferred out and 1 of the cases on the register died. There thus remained on the register at the end of the year 44 cases. In one instance the diagnosis was unconfirmed, giving a corrected figure of 43 (15 males and 28 females).

The total of 8 cases notified as suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis compared with 4 for the previous year and 9 for the average of the last 5 years. There were 2 deaths which gives a death-rate of 0.05 per 1000 population.

The following are the death-rates so far as they are available:—

	Respiratory Tuberculosis.	Other forms of Tuberculosis.	Total.
1916-1920	1.01	0.50	1.51
1921-1925	0.67	0.33	1.00
1926-1930	0.53	0.22	0.75
1931-1935	0.40	0.18	0.58
1936-1940	0.44	0.09	0.53
1941-1945	0.32	0.12	0.44
1946-1950	0.33	0.07	0.40
1951-1955	0.15	0.02	0.17
1956	0.04	0.05	0.09

Whooping cough.—Forty-one cases were notified during the year and to the 41 confirmed cases should be added one case notified as gastro-enteritis. This gives a corrected total of 42 confirmed cases, which compares with 5 for the previous year. Two cases were treated in hospital. There were no deaths.

Laboratory Services.—These services are undertaken by the Fife District Laboratory, Cameron Hospital, Windygates.

Specimens for the Laboratory are collected daily by their own mobile van.

Treatment and Isolation.—West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital. By arrangement between Dunfermline Town Council and the South Eastern Regional Hospital Board, the Medical Officer of Health acts as Medical Superintendent, and the clinical duties of the hospital are undertaken by the medical members of the Health Department Staff.

The position therefore remains as it was prior to the National Health Service Act, so that in effect the admission of patients suffering from acute infections remains in the hands of the preventive authority. This is an important feature, for the hospital is a place in and from which a great deal of preventive work can be carried out in relation to the observation of contacts and immunisation. The medical officers working in the field have the daily stimulus of contact with patients while under treatment in hospital, a very important feature in particular for the individual officers concerned and in general for the future of the preventive health service.

Of the 787 patients treated in the West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital, 354 (which includes 36 Service cases) were from Dunfermline, and the following table shows the distribution of the various diseases:—

	In Hospital 1/1/56.	Admitted during year.	Total.
(a) Civilian Cases:—			
Cerebro-spinal fever.. . . .	—	2	2
Chickenpox	—	2	2
Dysentery	—	6	6
Erysipelas	—	8	8
Measles.. . . .	—	15	15
Miscellaneous.. . . .	5	108	113
Pneumonia, broncho.. . . .	6	45	51
Pneumonia, influenzal	—	2	2
Pneumonia, lobar.. . . .	—	47	47
Poliomyelitis, acute	—	2	2
Puerperal pyrexia.. . . .	—	1	1
Scarlet fever	1	40	41
Tuberculosis, pulmonary .. .	8	18	26
Whooping cough	—	2	2
(b) Service Cases:—			
Chickenpox	—	7	7
Measles	—	1	1
Miscellaneous	—	20	20
Pneumonia, lobar	—	8	8
Totals	20	334	354

MENTAL HEALTH.

Administration.—The Physician Superintendent of the Fife Mental Hospital Board holds a psychiatric clinic every Wednesday within the West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital, Dunfermline, where a member of his staff is available for consultation and advice.

The Town Council do not employ psychiatric social workers, nor is an occupation centre provided.

There are two Authorised Mental Health Service Officers who are responsible for the removal of patients to mental hospitals and as agents for the Hospital Board make arrangements for maintenance allowance to patients on trial or probation.

No duties have been delegated to voluntary associations.

The Assistant Medical Officers are sent in rotation to a Course on Educationally Sub-normal Children and Mental Defectives, organised by the National Association for Mental Health.

Mental defectives are ascertained through the child welfare and school medical services. Non-educable defectives after certification are referred back by the Education Authority. Supervision of the defectives is carried out by the health visitors who are also school nurses, and by the authorised officers. The authorised officers made 150 domiciliary visits to mental patients during the year.

Arrangements were made by the Authorised Officers during the year for the certification and removal to hospital of 35 patients. Assistance was also given in a number of cases for voluntary admission.

Fourteen certified patients died in hospital during the year. Ten were discharged "recovered" and 4 "relieved." Eight patients were discharged on probation for a period of 12 months. Two were returned to hospital having proved unsuitable.

The following table shows the age groups of patients admitted:—

Age.	Males.	Females.	Total.
16 years—60 years	9	12	21
60 years and over	7	7	14
Totals	16	19	35

At the close of the year there were 52 mental defectives on the register—14 were under guardianship and 38 were in institutions. Two mental defectives belonging to other authorities and 8 uncertified cases were also under supervision. Maintenance and clothing allowances were paid to those under guardianship. Quarterly visits were made by the medical officers authorised by the General Board of Control.

Mental Defectives in Institutions.

Institution.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Royal Scottish National Institution, Larbert	7	3	10
Waverley Park, Kirkintilloch ..	—	1	1
Blinkbonny, Falkirk	—	4	4
Gogarburn, Edinburgh	4	3	7
Strathore, Thornton	6	6	12
St Joseph's, Rosewell	2	2	4
Totals	19	19	38

No occupation centre is provide and there are no arrangements for training of defectives.

Work under Nurseries and Child-Minders' Regulation Act.—

No applications for registration were received during the year.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES.

Number of school children in Dunfermline—8,529.

School Medical Inspections were carried out on the usual lines.

Table I. shows the numbers examined, and Table II. shows the defects found. Table III. is a classification of defects by age groups in order of severity.

TABLE I.

A. SYSTEMATIC EXAMINATIONS.

Number of Children Examined.

	Boys.	Girls.
Entrants	331	336
Second age group	248	332
Third age group	141	318
Fourth age group	46	19
Totals	766	1,005

B. OTHER EXAMINATIONS.

	Boys.	Girls.
Special cases	195	182
Re-inspections	26	16
Non-routines	156	102
Vision group	471	418
Totals	848	718

Number of individual children inspected at systematic examinations who were notified to parents as requiring treatment excluding uncleanness and dental caries:—

	Boys.	Girls.
Entrants	81	51
Second age group	48	36
Third age group	7	24
Fourth age group	3	5
Other systematic examinations	—	—
Totals	139	116

Number of School Medical Inspection Sessions	169
Refraction Clinics (Specialist)	37
Number of Diphtheria Immunisation Sessions at Schools	52
Vision Testing Sessions	20
B.C.G. Vaccination Sessions	21
Poliomyelitis Vaccination Sessions	9

TABLE II.—Systematic Examinations.

Return of number of individual children in each age-group suffering from particular defects:—

Nature of Defect.	Total examined at all ages:	Entrants.		Second age group.		Third age group.		Fourth age group.		All ages.		Total.
		Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
		331	336	248	332	141	318	46	19	766	1,005	1,771
1. Clothing unsatisfactory	3	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Footgear unsatisfactory	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Cleanliness—												
(a) Head (dirty, nits or verminous)	3	2	—	4	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Body (dirty or verminous)	3	—	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
4. Skin—												
(a) Head:												
Ringworm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Impetigo	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases	15	10	7	6	4	7	3	—	—	—	—
(b) Body:												
Ringworm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Impetigo	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scabies	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases	23	16	12	8	5	8	3	1	—	—	—
5. Nutritional State—												
Slightly defective	22	24	20	13	8	10	1	—	—	—	—
Bad	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Mouth and teeth unhealthy	80	113	60	59	15	43	4	1	—	—	—
7. Naso pharynx—												
(a) Nose:												
(1) Obstruction requiring observation	35	14	6	7	2	5	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Requiring operation	5	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
(3) Other conditions	15	20	4	16	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Throat:												
(1) Tonsils requiring observation	75	88	54	65	14	29	4	—	—	—	—
(2) Requiring operation	21	13	2	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Glands:												
(1) Requiring observation	25	24	10	9	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Requiring operation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE II.—Systematic Examinations (Continued).

Nature of Defect.	Entrants.		Second age group.		Third age group.		Fourth age group.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
8. Eyes—								
(a) External diseases:								
Blepharitis	4	4	6	4	2	3	1	—
Conjunctivitis	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Corneal Opacities	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Strabismus	14	8	3	7	2	3	—	—
Other diseases	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	—
(b) Visual acuity—								
6/6	—	—	187	285	119	268	38	17
6/9—6/12	—	—	40	27	14	24	5	—
6/18 and over	1	—	16	18	7	25	1	1
Number with glasses	—	—	—	6	5	35	5	2
Recommended for refraction	3	4	1	17	5	10	—	2
9. Ears—								
(a) Diseases:								
Otorrhoea	4	9	1	—	—	3	—	—
Other diseases	10	18	8	19	4	7	1	2
(b) Defective hearing:								
Grade I.	1	15	3	1	1	1	1	—
Grade II. a	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grade II. b	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grade III.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Speech—								
Defective articulation	3	1	2	1	1	1	—	—
Stammering	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
11. Mental and nervous condition								
(a) Backward (due to irregular attendances, etc.),	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
(b) Dull (intrinsically)	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
(c) Mentally defective (educable)	—	—	—	1	3	2	—	—
(d) Mentally defective (ineducable)	—	—	2	1	2	—	—	—
(e) Highly nervous or unstable	2	1	3	3	—	1	—	—
(f) Difficult in behaviour	4	4	3	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE II.—Systematic Examinations (Continued).

Nature of Defect.	Entrants.		Second age group.		Third age group.		Fourth age group.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
12. Circulatory system—								
(a) Organic heart disease:								
(1) Congenital	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
(2) Acquired	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Functional conditions	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Lungs—								
Chronic bronchitis	6	6	3	—	—	1	—	—
Suspected tuberculosis	—	2	—	1	—	2	—	—
Other diseases	10	7	7	6	—	1	—	—
14. Deformities—								
(a) Congenital	1	1	4	4	2	1	1	—
(b) Acquired (infantile paralysis)	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Acquired (probable rickets)	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	—
(d) Acquired (other causes)	51	56	36	32	12	23	4	3
15. Infectious diseases	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16. Other diseases or defects	23	15	24	36	18	13	3	1
17. Diphtheria Immunisations	309	319	242	321	135	308	43	19
18. Vaccinations	243	253	190	232	105	238	31	18
19. Parents present	235	261	135	194	4	17	—	1
20. Refusals					3 Boys and 2 Girls.			

TABLE III.—Systematic Medical Examinations.

Classification.	Entrants.					Second age-group.			Third age-group.			Fourth age-group.			Total.	
	No. of children.	Percentage of the children examined in this group.	No. of children.	Percentage of the children examined in this group.	No. of children.	Percentage of the children examined in this group.	No. of children.	Percentage of the children examined in this group.	No. of children.	Percentage of the children examined in this group.	No. of children.	Percentage of the children examined in this group.	No. of children.	Percentage of the children examined in this group.	No. of children.	Percentage of the children examined at systematic medical examinations
1. Children free from defects	185	27.7	228	39.3	216	47.1	34	52.3	663	37.4						
2. Children (otherwise free from defects) who suffer from—																
(a) Defective vision not worse than 6/12 in the better eye with or without glasses or	14	2.1	38	6.6	51	11.1	5	7.7	108	6.1						
(b) Conditions of the mouth and teeth requiring treatment	85	12.8	32	5.5	31	6.8	3	4.6	151	8.5						
(c) Both (a) and (b)	—	—	—	—	9	1.9	—	—	9	0.5						
Totals	99	14.9	70	12.1	91	19.8	8	12.3	268	15.1						
3. Children suffering from ailments (other than those mentioned in 2) from which complete recovery is anticipated within a few weeks	324	48.6	233	40.2	125	27.2	17	26.2	699	39.5						
4. Children suffering from (or suspected to be suffering from) defects less remediable than defects specified in 2 or 3 distinguishing cases—																
(a) where complete cure or restoration of function (in the case of eye defect, full correction) is considered possible	55	8.2	42	7.2	23	5.0	4	6.1	124	7.0						
(b) where improvement only is considered possible, e.g., without complete restoration of function	4	0.6	7	1.2	4	0.9	2	3.1	17	1.0						
Totals	59	8.8	49	8.4	27	5.9	6	9.2	141	8.0						
Total number of children examined,	667	100	580	100	459	100	65	100	1,771	100						

Nutrition.—Of the 1,771 school children examined during the year, 98 or 5.5 per cent. were found to suffer from slight nutritional defect, and 2 or 0.11 per cent. from a more marked nutritional defect.

Attendance of Parents.—A notice of the forthcoming medical inspection is sent to the parents of each child and they are invited to attend. Their attendance is very much in the child's interest, as it enables the doctor to ascertain precise details of past illnesses and family history. Should treatment of any condition be required personal explanation is more satisfactory than any written notice and more likely to be effective. During the year parents have continued to co-operate in this way, especially in the more junior age groups.

It is unfortunately true, however, that on the whole we do not see the parents of the children who are most in need of attention. The careful mother of the well-cared for child attends, and has the satisfaction of learning all is well. When a child's condition is less satisfactory it is very often found that lack of parental interest extends to school medical inspection and opportunity for discussion is not afforded.

Of 667 entrant infants examined, 496 were accompanied by parents, and of 1,104 other children examined, parents were present in 351 instances.

Refusal of Medical Inspection.—The number of refusals was again a negligible percentage of the number of children examined. There were in all, 5 refusals, representing 0.28 per cent.

Health Visitors' Inspections. — The health visitors carry out inspections of heads and clothing and where necessary refer cases to the school clinic for treatment. "Follow-up" visits were also made to ensure that their suggestions and instructions were being acted upon.

Number of children seen by health visitors at inspections	18,255
Number re-inspected (<i>i.e.</i> children with defects at a previous inspection)	1,400
Number of homes visited	131

Treatment. — During the year the Medical Officer of Health continued to be responsible for the treatment of school children, under the arrangement made with the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust and Dunfermline Town Council. The medical aspect of the work was undertaken by the medical members of the Health Department staff.

I take this opportunity of conveying to the members of the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust staff engaged in this work my cordial thanks and appreciation for their help and co-operation.

General Clinic.

	No. of Cases.	No. of Attendances.
Defective speech	18	474
Ear, nose and throat	417	694
Eye	263	489
Orthopædic	370	3,842
Other conditions	2,367	4,541
Skin	984	4,454
U.V.R. treatment	56	1,222
Totals	4,475	15,716

Dental Clinic.

Dental inspections	1,534
No. of cases	3,188
No. of attendances	6,273

Specialist Clinics.—(a) Ear, Nose, and Throat Clinic. Nine specialist clinics were held during the year, at which 122 school children were seen by the Consultant.

(b) Eye Clinic. Ophthalmic treatment of school children was carried out by the Consultant. The report of the year's work in this clinic is shown in the following table:—

Number of sessions	37			
	No. of cases examined.		No. of cases re-examined.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Hypermetropia	16	21	29	28
Hypermetropic astigmatism	19	15	48	45
Myopia	21	11	33	33
Myopic astigmatism	1	4	15	16
Mixed astigmatism	1	3	3	4
Emmetropia	15	25	11	12
External Eye Condition	—	1	1	—
Totals	73	80	140	138
Both Sexes	153		278	
Frames fitted	113 boys and 112 girls.			

(c) Orthopaedic Clinic. Eleven specialist clinics were held during the year at which 225 school children were seen by the Consultant.

Co-operation of Teachers.—Headmasters and teachers continued to co-operate and proved very helpful in referring ailing children for examination. Their interest and assistance are invaluable and greatly facilitate the work of school medical inspection.

Special Medical Examination of Mentally and Physically Handicapped Children.—Fifteen mentally handicapped and 2 physically handicapped children were examined and initial reports forwarded to the County Medical Officer of Health.

PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.

The arrangements made under the Public Health (Ships) (Scotland) Regulations 1952 were satisfactory.

A total of 7 ships arrived at Rosyth from foreign ports and all were granted pratique.

APPENDIX I.

Infant deaths classified according to age groups and causes of death.

Causes of Death.		Under 1 week.	1 week and under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
All Causes	Certified	16	2	2	3	1	24
	Uncertified.. . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prematurity		7	1	—	1	—	9
Congenital malformations		4	—	1	1	—	6
Pulmonary hyaline membrane		2	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia		1	1	—	—	—	2
Pulmonary hæmorrhage		1	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebral hæmorrhage. Anoxia		1	—	—	—	—	1
Asphyxia, accidental		—	—	1	—	—	1
Infantile eczema		—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumococcal septicæmia.							
Pneumococcal meningitis.. . . .		—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals		16	2	2	3	1	24

APPENDIX II.

Cases of Infectious Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) notified from
1st January 1956 to 31st December 1956.

Disease.			Number of Cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health and accepted by him as suffering from the stated disease.									
			At Age—Years.									
			At all ages	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Cases removed to Hospital.
Cerebro-spinal fever	M.	1	...	1	1	...
	F.	1	...	1	1	...
		7	7	7	...
Chickenpox	M.	9	...	1	1	7	9	...
	F.
Dysentery	M.	2	...	1	...	1	2	...
	F.	4	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	4	...
Erysipelas	M.	8	1	1	...	2	3	1	5	3
	F.	5	1	4	...	3	2
		1	1	1	...
Measles	M.	297	6	112	178	1	8	289
	F.	282	8	132	141	...	1	8	274
Pneumonia, acute	M.	1	1	1	...
influenzal	F.	1	1	...	1	...
		8	6	2	8	...
Pneumonia, acute	M.	41	...	1	6	11	6	1	9	7	36	5
primary	F.	31	2	1	2	4	13	9	23	8
Pneumonia (not otherwise notifiable)	M.	29	7	9	2	4	7	29	...
	F.	16	4	4	2	1	1	4	16	...
Poliomyelitis, acute	M.	2	...	1	1	2	...
	F.
Puerperal pyrexia	F.	1	1	1	...
Scarlet fever	F.	21	1	7	12	1	21	...
	M.	19	...	6	13	19	...
Whooping cough	M.	17	2	6	9	1	16
	F.	25	2	11	12	1	24
TOTALS	M.	16				14	2				16	
	F.	428	16	139	209	22	7	4	16	15	115	313
		385	14	155	170	3	4	6	20	13	77	308

The figures in black denote Service cases and are included in the totals.

APPENDIX III.

PART I.—RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS.

1.—Number of cases formally notified or regarded as notified from 1st January 1956 to 31st December 1956.

	Age-Groups.								65 and upwards.	Totals
	Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65		
Males	—	—	—	2	1	1	5	2	2	13
Females	—	1	2	4	6	3	—	—	1	17
Totals.. .. .	—	1	2	6	7	4	5	2	3	30

2.—Number of cases confirmed to be suffering from active respiratory tuberculosis during the year (excluding transfers in by another Authority).

	Age-Groups.								65 and upwards.	Totals.
	Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65		
Males	—	—	—	2	1	1	5	2	2	13
Females	—	1	2	4	5	3	—	—	1	16
Totals.. .. .	—	1	2	6	6	4	5	2	3	29

3.—Methods by which new patients were discovered to be suffering from respiratory tuberculosis during the year.

Symptom group examination (M.M.R. or other)	19
Contact group examination (M.M.R. or other)	5
Mass miniature radiography (general public), including office and other staffs	3
Routine examination of special groups (M.M.R. or other)—National Service recruits,	1
Routine examination of special groups (M.M.R. or other)—Emigrants	1
Total	29

4.—Number of new cases in Table II. admitted to Hospital for tuberculosis treatment for the first time during the year.

	Under 15 years.	15 to under 45.	45 and over.	Totals.
Males	—	2	3	5
Females	1	3	—	4
Totals	1	5	3	9

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES (RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS)

5.—Number of patients admitted to, discharged from, or dying in tuberculosis hospitals, sanatoria, or wards in other hospitals reserved for the treatment of the tuberculous.

	In Hospital 1:1:56.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died in Hospital.	In Hospital 31:12:56.
Under 15 years—Male	1	—	1	—	—
Female	1	2	2	—	1
15-45 years—Male.. .. .	3	5	7	—	1
Female	10	5	12	—	3
45 years and over—Male.. ..	5	7	5	1	6
Female	—	1	—	—	1
Totals	20	20	27	1	12

6.—Number of patients dying from respiratory tuberculosis in Hospital accommodation other than that reserved for tuberculous patients Nil.

WAITING LIST.

7.—There was no waiting list at 31st December.

PART II.—NON-RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS.

8.—Number of cases formally notified or regarded as notified as suffering from non-respiratory tuberculosis during the year.

	Age-Groups.									Totals.
	Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65 and upwards.	
Males	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Females	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	1	—	6
Totals.. .. .	—	—	2	1	—	1	3	1	—	8

9.—Number of cases notified, or intimated, confirmed to be suffering from active non-respiratory tuberculosis during the year (excluding transfers in by another Authority).

		Age-Groups.									Totals.
Sex.		Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65 and upwards.	
1. Abdominal	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
2. Meningeal	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Superficial Glands	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
4. Other Organs	M	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
	F	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
Totals		—	—	2	1	—	1	2	1	—	7

PART III.—ANALYSIS OF TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS.

10.—Number of persons who died from tuberculosis in the area during the year with the period elapsing between notification or intimation and death.

		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
		M	F	M	F
Number of persons who died from tuberculosis of whom—					
Notified less than 1 month before death		—	—	1	1
Notified from 1 to 3 months before death		—	1	—	—
Notified over 2 years before death		1	—	—	—
Totals		1	1	1	1

PART IV.—THE TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

Return of number of persons resident in the area at 31st December 1956, who were known to be suffering from tuberculosis.

	Under 1	Age-Groups.							65 and upwards.	Totals.
		1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65		
1. Respiratory—Males	—	1	8	25	34	38	30	21	4	161
Females	—	—	6	43	60	25	7	9	2	152
2. Non-Respiratory—Males	—	—	5	4	1	3	1	—	1	15
Females	—	—	5	5	6	5	2	4	1	28



City and Royal Burgh of Dunfermline

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

GENERAL SANITARY CONDITION OF THE BURGH

FOR THE YEAR

1956

BY

ALEXR. H. DUNCAN, M.R.S.H., M.INST.P.C., M.I.T.A.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Cleansing.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
35 Queen Anne Street,
Dunfermline,
6th July 1956.

*To the Department of Health for Scotland,
and the Provost, Magistrates, and Councillors
of the City and Royal Burgh of Dunfermline*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the general sanitary condition of the Burgh and the work performed by the Sanitary and Cleansing Departments during the year 1956.

This report has been compiled in accordance with the terms of D.H.S. Circular No. 63/1955.

STATISTICS.

Area of Burgh in Acres	7.674
Miles of Streets, etc.	61.38
Population	45.700
Number of Inhabited Houses	13.879
Gross Valuation	£502,905
Net Rateable Value	£446,502 10/-
Sum represented by 1d. Rate—Owner	£1,853
Occupier	1,845
	£3,698

GENERAL SANITATION.

Sanitation is a subject which has engaged the attention of man from early times, its progress being largely coincident with social progress and the development of science. Unmeasurable progress, fortified by Public Health legislation, has been achieved, but there is still a great deal to be accomplished in this field, particularly in relation to the abolition of the objectionable common W.C., the common water supply, and the communal—and very often dilapidated—wash-houses which still exist.

Water Supply:

The Burgh water supply originates from catchment areas in Glendevon, Perthshire, and Craigluscar by Dunfermline, and is impounded in reservoirs at Glensherup and Craigluscar. An additional and supplementary supply, whose source is also in the Glendevon area, is obtained by agreement with Fife County Council from Glen Quey Reservoir. This supplies the landward villages of Kingseat and Peattiesmuir, and by confluence with the Glensherup main supplements the Burgh supply when required. All these supplies are chlorinated before reaching the consumer and regular samples both for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis are taken by the Sanitary Department.

During the year the supply from the east reservoir at Craigluscar was abandoned on account of pollution from its catchment area, while the installation of micro strainers at Glensherup Reservoir is to be carried out at an early date.

Replacements, enlargements, and extensions to water mains were carried out during the year as per Town Council Schedule, and these included the enlargement of the 8 inch main between Craigluscar and Wellwood by 2,890 lineal yards of 15 inch spun iron concrete lined pipes, while the Wellwood to Townhill and subsidiary mains were replaced, involving the laying of 290 lineal yards 6 inch spun iron pipes, 324 lineal yards 4 inch spun iron pipes, and 256 lineal yards 3 inch spun iron pipes.

The continuation of site preparation at the Aberdour Road Site resulted in the laying of 376 lineal yards 6 inch spun iron pipes and 1,332 lineal yards 4 inch spun iron pipes.

The resurfacing of Bruce Street necessitated the replacement of the existing main by the laying of 140 lineal yards of 6 inch spun iron pipes, while in an endeavour to augment the supply to the Martha

Frew Children's Home, Keavil, 343 lineal yards of 3 inch asbestos cement pipes and 131 lineal yards 3 inch cast iron pipes were laid.

The total quantity of water in storage at 31st December 1956 was 193,762,000 gallons, of which 152,626,000 gallons were in Glensherup Reservoir and 41,136,000 gallons in Craigluscar Reservoir.

The average consumption per head was—(a) domestic purposes (unmetered), 40.00 gallons, and (b) trade purposes (metered), 15.86 gallons, a total of 55.86 gallons.

Seven complaints were received during the year concerning the unsatisfactory condition of the water supply. Five of these referred to the presence of sediment in the supply caused as the result of the renewal of mains in the vicinity, while the other two were on account of taste caused by vegetable growth in a main which is not at all times under full pressure. These matters were reported to the Water Engineer and the necessary remedial measures were effected.

Drainage:

Fifty-four complaints were received during the year in respect of choked and defective drains, and the necessary remedial measures were effected by owners on receipt of verbal and written intimations.

Two hundred and sixteen smoke tests were applied to new drainage and thirteen final tests to fittings while, in an endeavour to ascertain and locate defects in existing drainage, one hundred and fifty-three colour and seven peppermint tests were carried out.

The continuing development of the Aberdour Road Housing Site necessitated the extension of the Burgh sewage system, whereby the following sewers were laid at the 4th Development B Site, viz.:—

1. 301 lineal yards of 18 inch diameter concrete pipes.
2. 36 lineal yards of 15 inch diameter fire clay pipes.
3. 292 lineal yards of 12 inch diameter fire clay pipes.
4. 1,387 lineal yards of 9 inch diameter fire clay pipes.
5. 90 lineal yards of 6 inch diameter fire clay pipes.

Sewage Purification and Disposal:

As mentioned in previous reports the Burgh sewage is disposed of by dilution in the Forth Estuary, there being two outfall sewers which discharge at Charlestown and Queensferry respectively. This method of disposal continues to operate without evidence of nuisance, but, in view of the increasing population of the Burgh, it will, in due course, be necessary to resort to at least preliminary treatment before discharging into the estuary.

The problem of purification and disposal of sewage from houses situated outside sewered areas received close attention. To provide sanitary accommodation for such houses two septic tanks complete with aerated percolating filters, and designed to meet the requirements of each case as regards the attainment of a satisfactory standard of purification, were constructed during the year.

Sanitary Conveniences:

The number of dry closets, etc., in the Burgh is:—

Dry Closets	11
Chemical Closets	15
No Sanitary Accommodation	Nil.
Ashpits	12

These houses which are not provided with water closets are situated within the landward area of the Burgh where a water borne system of sewerage does not prevail. The majority are listed as unfit on account of major defects and will in due course be dealt with in terms of Section 9 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950.

The incidence of water closets used in common is as shown in the following table:—

Common W.C's.	Ward I.	Ward II.			Ward III.	Ward IV.	Ward V.	Ward VI.	Ward VII.	Total.
		D'line	Kingseat	Townhil ¹						
Families										
1 for 2	172	17	13	23	186	22	—	—	—	433
1 „ 3	78	3	2	11	54	10	2	—	—	160
1 „ 4	42	2	—	8	28	7	1	—	—	88
1 „ 5	10	—	—	1	11	—	—	—	—	22
1 „ 6	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Totals ...	303	22	15	43	280	39	3	—	—	705

Outside Water Supply:

As the result of the closure of unfit houses and the installation of water supply into others, the incidence of houses not provided with an inside water supply is now as follows:—

Supply Outside Building.						Supply Inside Building.					
Wards.	1 for 1	1 for 2	1 for 3	1 for 4	Houses.	1 for 1	1 for 2	1 for 3	1 for 4	Houses.	Total.
I. ..	1	2	—	—	5	3	6	—	—	15	20
II. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
III. ..	2	1	—	—	4	7	7	2	—	27	31
IV. ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
V. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
VI. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
VII. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	4	3	—	—	10	10	13	2	—	42	52

Lack of Cleanliness in Common Water Closets:

Five notices were served on tenants requiring them to cleanse and maintain W.C.s in a proper state of cleanliness. In three cases, weekly rotation cards were issued in terms of Section 117 of the Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892, to occupiers who failed to fulfil their obligation to cleanse common W.C.s in weekly rotation.

Defects in Water Closets:

The existence of eight defective W.C. compartments, eighteen defective W.C. basins or cisterns, and four choked W.C. basins was intimated to the owners concerned and subsequent inspections served to show that the necessary repairs had been effected.

Wash-House Byelaws:

The structural condition of many of the wash-houses, especially of those serving properties scheduled for early demolition, is far from desirable but, in view of their limited life, only essential repairs are insisted on.

During the year five notices were served on owners intimating the existence of structural defects and subsequent re-inspections revealed that these defects had received attention. Extensive repairs were carried out to three wash-houses as a result of the tenants being granted Certificates of Disrepair in terms of the Housing (Repairs and Rents) (Scotland) Act, 1954, and the owners' desire to have these certificates revoked.

Rivers Pollution:

The pollution of streams and water-ways is a matter of concern not only to the riparian owners but also to the general public. All the streams within the Burgh are small and liable, during dry weather, to substantial reduction in flow or to be dried up completely. In one case, where the catchment area is included in an expanding housing scheme, the general flow is reduced considerably on account of the confluence of rain and surface water with the Burgh sewage system. To secure, as far as practicable, the purity of these streams, a system of regular inspection has been initiated, in respect of the actual streams and septic tanks serving isolated houses whose effluent is discharged into the streams. One complaint was received relative to the dumping of rubbish in a stream but, as in many cases of this kind, the author of the nuisance could not be found. The rubbish was removed and the adjoining householders were individually notified regarding this objectionable practice.

Offensive Trades:

There are no offensive trades carried on within the Burgh with the exception of those allied to the slaughter of cattle, sheep, and pigs, and these are confined to tripe dressing, gut scraping and, of course, the slaughter of cattle. All these are conducted within the precincts of the Public Slaughterhouse in a satisfactory manner with no cause for complaint. The absence of nuisance is more remarkable having regard to the obsolete condition of the Slaughterhouse buildings and reflects credit on those firms engaged in the work.

Schools:

The schools in the Burgh, numbering 18 in all, including the new School of Building at Bothwell Place and a fee-paying school conducted by a private body, were regularly inspected during the year to ensure the hygienic conditions existing therein. Reports on each individual school were submitted in conjunction with the Medical Officer of Health to the Fife Education Committee drawing attention to defects found on inspection.

The School of Building at Bothwell Place, which was completed during the year and caters for apprentices of the building and allied trades, is a modern, well planned building, affording all the necessary amenities, including dining hall and modern sanitary arrangements.

Improvements and repairs have been effected on several schools during the year, but we are still faced with the problem of the older schools which, on present day criteria, are well below standard with regard to lighting, ventilation, heating and satisfactory toilet facilities. The only solution to this problem is the replacement or modernisation of these buildings but, as this is a long-term policy, the problem of these old schools will remain for some considerable time. The erection of new toilet accommodation at one school, the replacement of gas lighting by electricity at two others, and the erection of two additional classrooms at another school were some of the major improvements recorded.

Existing heating arrangements, including the installation of new boilers, were improved at a junior secondary school, while at the end of the year arrangements were being made for the installation of new boiler plant at the High School. Plans have been passed for the erection of a junior secondary school in the Woodmill area and this, together with the new school at Broomhead, will in due course help to alleviate the present overcrowding conditions existing at some schools and will permit the renovation and repair of the older buildings.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948:

The number and types of mechanical and non-mechanical factories in the Burgh are shown herewith:—

MECHANICAL.

Aerated Waters, Beer, and Whisky Bottling	6	Brought forward	108
Bacon Curing	1	Joiners	13
Bakeries	15	Laundries	4
Blacksmiths	3	Millers	3
Boot Repairing	9	Motor Vehicle Repairs	26
Brick and Pipe Making	1	Paint Manufacturer	1
Butchers	24	Photographers	4
Coachbuilders	3	Plumbers	7
Concrete Makers	3	Potato Crisp Manufacturer	1
Coppersmith and Brassfounder.. .. .	1	Preserved Meat	1
Coffin Furnishing	1	Printers	5
Dairy	1	Rag and Metal Sorting	3
Dressmaking	6	Rubber Shoes and Allied Products.. .. .	1
Electrical Generation	2	Sawmill	1
Embroidery	4	Sheet Metal Worker	1
Engineering (general)	20	Tailoring	2
Firewood Cutting	2	Tile Slabing	1
French Polishing	1	Toy Balloon Manufacturer	1
Gas Works	1	Tyre Factors	1
Glazing	2	Upholsterers and Furniture Manufacturers	3
Golf Club Manufacturer	1	Watch and Clock Repairing	7
Gut Scraping	1	Weaving	8
Carry forward	108	Total	202

NON-MECHANICAL.

Cleansing and Grading of Hides.. .. .	1	Brought forward	14
Coach Painting	1	Saddlery	1
Dressmaking	2	Tailoring	2
Painters	6	Tripe Dressing	1
Photography	1	Upholsterers	3
Plumbers	3	Watch and Clock Repairs	2
Carry forward	14	Total	23

During the year 485 inspections were made to factories and as a result of these inspections 35 written notices were issued and 61 verbal warnings given in respect of contraventions. Modernising of premises, including toilet and sanitary accommodation, was carried out in seven instances.

The following tabulated statement was submitted to the Ministry of Labour and National Service, viz.:—

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1.—INSPECTIONS.

PREMISES	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
(I.) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities,	23	64	5	—
(II.) Factories not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	200	379	23	—
(III.) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	24	42	7	—
Total	247	485	35	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Number of cases in which defects were found.

PARTICULARS	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Number of Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness	23	20	2	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	33	31	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	14	8	—	—	—
Total	72	61	2	—	—

Houses Let in Lodgings:

During the year nineteen visits were made to premises let in lodgings to ascertain the state of cleanliness existing therein. The premises at 28 Chapel Street, formerly occupied by twenty families, is vacant with the exception of one male single person who, as mentioned in last year's report, is not eligible for a Corporation house. The remainder of the premises is gradually being converted into offices or business premises, which is fortunate from the public health point of view.

Common Lodging House:

The only premises in the Burgh coming under this category are situated in Chapel Street, and these premises are registered to accommodate ninety-three male lodgers. Some of the men who take advantage of this undesirable but necessary facility are of the vagrant class, remaining only for short periods, while others, mostly of the labouring class, reside permanently. Forty-five visits of inspection were made to the premises during the year and two written and eleven verbal intimations were issued in respect of unsatisfactory conditions existing therein.

The average number of men residing in the house was seventy.

Nuisances:

During the year 468 complaints were received and of these three were found to be unjustified.

Four hundred and ninety-four nuisances were dealt with and to secure the abatement of those 151 written and 158 verbal intimations were issued, involving 533 inspections. Subsequent inspections were made to ascertain the progress of repairs, etc., and as a result 29 second and 6 final notices were issued.

The following table shows the number and variety of nuisances dealt with during the year, viz.:—

Accumulations	20	House sinks defective	5
Animals causing nuisance	3	Houses general defects	32
Areas, etc., dirty	13	Offensive smells	19
Atmospheric Pollution	13	Premises pest infested and verminous	45
Cleansing of Closets	4	Rainwater fittings defective	51
Coal Cellars defective	2	Sewers choked	3
Condensation	1	Sewers defective	1
Drains choked	34	Shaking of mats	3
Drains defective	20	Stairs defective	4
Dry rot	4	Streams Pollution	1
Dust causing nuisance	1	Sweeping of Stairs	3
Fireplaces defective	5	Unhygienic condition in shop premises	1
Flooding of areas	7	Washhouses defective	5
Food Contamination	8	Waste and soil pipes defective	8
Gas supplies defective	2	Water supply inadequate	2
Gullies choked	5	Water supply discoloured	2
House bunkers defective	2	Water pipes burst	13
Houses damp	39	W.C. compartments defective	8
Houses dirty	6	W.C.s choked	4
House ceilings defective	5	W.C.s cleansing and use of	5
House chimneys defective	15	W.C.s defective	18
House floors defective	2		
House roofs defective	50		

Burial Grounds:

I am indebted to Mr. J. W. Gladstone, Burial Grounds Superintendent, for the following table which shows the number of interments for each calendar month at the three burial grounds situated within the Burgh, viz.:—

	Dunfermline Cemetery.	Douglas Bank Cemetery.	Abbey Churchyard.
January	51	6	—
February	60	10	—
March	28	5	—
April	31	4	—
May	34	5	—
June	25	3	—
July	38	4	—
August	30	6	—
September	27	5	—
October	30	6	—
November	27	9	—
December	45	5	—
Totals	426	68	—

Tents, Vans, and Sheds:

There was only one caravan situated within the Burgh at the end of the year and, on account of the unsuitability of the site with regard to water supply and sanitary accommodation, an assurance was given by the owner that this mobile structure would be removed to a suitable site early in the year.

During the year three other caravans visited the Burgh taking up temporary stances on vacant sites within the precincts of different farms, but, on being required to instal the necessary facilities, these caravans moved outwith the Burgh.

The caravan situated at Seggsburn, as mentioned in previous reports, has been removed from this site on account of the owner having emigrated. This site, which is provided with all the necessary facilities, has not been again used as a caravan site.

There were three visits from the "Shows" during the year, two at the Fairground, Aberlour Street, Rosyth, and one at St. Leonard's Showground, Dunfermline. The approximate number of caravans involved on these three occasions was fifty-five, housing approximately one hundred and one adults and thirty-three children. All the caravans at these two sites were inspected and found in a clean condition, while the sanitary accommodation and water supply were satisfactory. Refuse and kitchen waste were regularly removed by the Corporation Cleansing Department.

In June, a large travelling circus visited the Public Park, where performances were carried out on four days. The number of caravans varied from fifty-five to sixty-two on account of early departure of their advance party. The hygienic condition of these caravans was excellent with adequate facilities for washing and cooking. Refuse, kitchen waste, and animal manure were removed daily by the Cleansing Department.

On one occasion exception had to be taken to tinkers camping on vacant sites, but after due warning in conjunction with the Police Authority, these families moved on.

Pest Infested Houses:

Forty-eight complaints were received relative to the existence of insect pests in or adjoining premises, being an increase of eleven complaints over last year. Fifteen of these complaints were in connection with the presence of furniture beetles in floors, skirting boards, and furniture, while other causes were fleas, beetles, flies, and cockroaches. One complaint in respect of bed bugs was also received and investigations revealed that the family concerned had recently purchased second-hand furniture from premises outwith the Burgh. Another unusual, if not fantastic, complaint was received from a labourer on a building site who alleged that he acquired crab-lice from the temporary sanitary convenience provided on the site. All these complaints were thoroughly investigated and those justified were successfully eradicated by the proper application of the appropriate insecticide.

Public Baths:

As in former years, the Corporation Public Baths and District Institutes were the subject of regular inspections. These premises, including the swimming pond, dressing accommodation, showers, slipper baths, and sanitary accommodation, were found in a hygienic condition and efficiently administrated and supervised by Mr. Robert Gardner, Engineer-Superintendent, and his staff.

The Town Council decided to replace the original "fill and draw" system of changing the water of the swimming pond at Carnegie Central Baths by continuous re-circulation and, at the end of the year, the installation of the plant was commenced and it was expected to be completed in early spring.

The system is similar to that generally adopted in modern swimming ponds, the object being the admission of bath water as

bacteriologically pure and transparent as possible. The pond is approximately seventy-five long and twenty-five feet wide and holds at its maximum 81,000 gallons of water which, with the adoption of the re-circulation system, can be completely passed through the plant in approximately three hours.

Bath water is withdrawn at the shallow end of the pond and passed through a copper mesh screening chamber to remove suspended matter and then dosed with alum and soda before passing through two mechanical pressure filters at the rate of 232 gallons per sq. ft. per hour. The water after filtration is aerated, raised to the desired temperature, dosed with chlorine at a concentration of between .2 and .5 parts per million, and finally returned to the pond at the deep end. Adequate provision is made for future development and expansion of the Public Baths.

This enterprising and progressive step in the interests of public health will render the pond a much safer bathing place.

Paddling Pools:

Eight samples of water, five for chemical and three for bacteriological examination, were taken from the paddling pools at Pittencrieff Park, Rosyth, and Townhill. The samples taken from Townhill Paddling Pond were reported satisfactory, while those samples taken from the Pittencrieff Park and Rosyth pools were reported as receiving a degree of pollution. These pools, although a great and popular attraction to children visiting these parks, are nevertheless highly undesirable from the hygienic and public health aspect, particularly in warm weather when children emerge in swimming attire thus altering their purpose to that of miniature swimming ponds. While cleansing is carried out frequently there is no mechanical purification and contamination rapidly ensues, which suggests that, in order to render such pools hygienically safe, it is essential to install a system of continuous circulation and purification.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949:

In compliance with request from the Department of Agriculture for Scotland, the following report was submitted, viz.:—

THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949 (Part I.) RATS AND MICE.

REPORT FOR YEAR 1st JANUARY — 31st DECEMBER 1956.

1. *Staff employed in carrying out Local Authority functions under the Act:—*
 - (a) Administrative 1
 - (b) Survey 1
 - (c) Operational 1

II. Measures taken for the Discovery, Prevention, and Control of Rats and Mice:—

Apart from the more obvious and normal measures namely, as a result of complaints from owners and occupiers of (a) infested properties, (b) properties adjoining or in close proximity to infested premises, the staff of the Sanitary Department when engaged in any routine inspection of districts or properties, always pay particular attention to the possibility of vermin infestation and where there are signs of such infestation, the appropriate remedial measures are initiated without delay.

The measures designed to effect prevention and control of rats and mice include surveys and inspections of buildings, areas, open spaces, streams, refuse coups, sewers, etc., and where necessary this is followed by the treatment of all infested places with the subsequent execution of rat proofing measures where such are required.

The staff of the Sanitary Department are always available to advise occupiers and owners on any matter relative to vermin control and repression, while publicity measures include the medium of the Annual Report and talks to various local organisations.

III. Measures taken regarding properties specially liable to infestation:—

Special and regular attention is directed to sewers, refuse coups, and all premises subject to infestation and these are regularly inspected and treated, while timeous notice and advice is given to the owners and/or occupiers of factories, shops, offices, farms, etc.

IV. Action (if any) taken under the Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) Order, 1951.

None.

V. General:—

The year 1956 presented no untoward features and no undue difficulties were encountered. As in previous years, the Sanitary Department was called upon to undertake the destruction of other pests, including one rabbit, 166 pigeons, and 32 eggs.

TYPE OF PROPERTY.

	Local Authority Properties	Dwelling Houses	Business or Industrial Premises	Agricul- tural Properties	Total
I. Number of Properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1956.					
(a) As a result of notification	7	69	16	1	93
(b) Otherwise	9	2	10	—	21
Total	16	71	26	1	114
II. Number of above properties found to be infested by rats or mice	16	57	22	1	96
III. Number of above infested properties satisfactorily cleared.					
(a) By the L.A.	16	56	21	1	94
(b) Otherwise	—	—	—	—	—
Total	16	56	21	1	94
IV. Number of notices served under Section 4.					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Works	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—
V. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—
VI. Number of notices issued under Section 6 (2)	—	—	—	—	—
VII. Number of Ships treated ..	—	—	—	—	—
VIII. Number of Rodent Control Certificates issued	—	—	—	—	—

Piggeries:

Eight visits of inspection were made to the two piggeries situated within the Burgh to ensure that these premises were kept in a clean and sanitary condition, and on one occasion it was found necessary to draw attention to the unsatisfactory disposal of effluent from the pig styes and the routine limewashing of the premises.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926:

During the year eight samples were taken in terms of the above Act and submitted for analysis to the Public Analyst. The results of analysis were as follows:—

No. of Samples Taken.	Nature.	Conform.	Non-Conform.
1.	Pig Fattening	1	—
1.	Nitrate of Potash	1	—
1.	Potato Fertiliser	1	—
1.	Growers Mesh	1	—
1.	Dryfeed for Chickens	1	—
1.	Sulphate of Ammonia	1	—
1.	Lentil Offal Meal	1	—
1.	Plant Growth Tablets	1	—

Six of the above samples conformed to the Statutory Statements in all respects, while two samples showed an excess over the Statutory Statement in one or more constituents and were not below in any.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951:

The only premises registered under Section 1 of the Act is that of a furniture manufacturer. Regular inspections as required by Section 13 revealed that the necessary records were being kept and that the storage of filling materials was satisfactory.

One sample of rag flock and one of woollen felt were taken during the year and submitted to the Public Analyst, who reported that both these samples conformed to the standard of cleanliness required by the Regulations.

Pet Animals Act, 1951:

In terms of Section 1 of the Act three licences were granted during the year in respect of premises used for keeping pets. Seven visits of inspection were made to these premises when conditions were found satisfactory.

Shops Act, 1950:

Six hundred and six inspections were made in accordance with the provisions of the above Act, and sixty-three written and thirty-eight verbal intimations were issued.

Nine shopkeepers were warned for failure to display statutory notices concerning seats for female assistants, and the Abstract of the Act.

Eight shopkeepers were warned for failure to keep records relative to young persons, and in seven cases warnings were given where the statutory notices relating to Assistants' "Half Holiday" were not displayed.

Other contraventions included three cases of failure to observe "Half Day Closing," seven cases of inadequate sanitary accommodation, two of unsuitable washing facilities, nine of general hygienic defects, six of insanitary W.C. compartments, and five of general structural defects.

Renovations to provide modern facilities, including three self-service shops, were carried out at ten premises, while a complete block of five new shops was erected and occupied. At the end of the year two new blocks of shops were in the course of erection at the Aberdour Road Housing Scheme.

With regard to closing hours, thirty-two visits to shops and mobile retailing vehicles, entailing inspections on six evenings, were carried out to enforce the statutory requirements, and twenty-three written notices were issued in respect of infringements. A reduction of the incidence of contraventions has since been observed.

A further case relative to the sale of bakery rolls outwith the prescribed hours led to a successful prosecution in a stated case at Dunfermline Sheriff Court, the defendant being fined the maximum of £20.

Places of Public Entertainment:

Twenty visits of inspection were made to cinemas, public halls, dance halls, etc., when the sanitary accommodation was found both suitable and sufficient, and maintained in a clean condition. In one cinema complete re-decoration was carried out while in another sanitary and staff accommodation were repainted.

One complaint relative to the unclean condition of the sanitary accommodation in a cinema was received, but it was found to be unjustified.

In order to test the efficiency of ventilating systems in cinemas, Kata-Thermometer tests were carried out at two establishments, and two samples of air were taken from one of these cinemas. The Kata readings, both wet and dry, indicated satisfactory ventilation, while the Analyst reported that the carbon dioxide present in the air samples was 402 and 310 parts per 100,000 respectively, indicating the ventilation to be excellent.

Billiard Rooms:

The six billiard rooms in the Burgh were inspected and found to be clean and efficiently managed. Re-decoration of one of these premises was carried out during the year.

Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892:

The following action was taken under the undernoted Sections of the above Act:—

Section 115.

Five notices were issued to occupiers to cleanse in weekly rotation the common W.C.s, stairs, and passages used by them.

Section 117.

Four hundred and six visits were paid to properties regarding the whitewashing of common closes, stairs, and W.C.s as a result of which 249 notices and 91 second notices were issued.

Section 164.

Fifty-one notices were sent to owners or factors intimating the existence of defective rain water fittings at their properties.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952:

Routine visits were made to nine premises engaged in the sale of Heating Appliances, and thirty-five electric, twelve gas, and fifteen paraffin heaters were tested in accordance with the requirements of the Regulations. In one case an appliance which failed to comply with the specified test was withdrawn from circulation following written intimation to the management of the shop.

Infectious Diseases:

During the year investigations, reports, disinfections, and fumigations were carried out in connection with the following infectious diseases notifications, *viz.*:—

Scarlet Fever	37
Tuberculosis Removals	8
Croup	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	1

The details of work performed by the Sanitary Department in the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases are shown in Appendix II. of this Report.

HOUSING.

The work as reported hereunder was performed under the various Acts relating to housing, viz.:—

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS (SCOTLAND) 1928.

1. Number of dwellinghouses inspected :—
 - (a) During the year 280
 - (b) Since 1st January 1931 (including (a)) 13,081

Note:—In addition 627 houses were re-inspected during the year.
2. Number of dwellinghouses which, on inspection, were considered to be in any respect unfit for human habitation :—
 - (a) During the year Nil.
 - (b) Since 1st January 1931 2,212

BURGH POLICE (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1892.

3. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notice was given during the year under Section 246 requiring provision of a sufficient W.C. Nil.
 4. Number of dwellinghouses where requirements were complied with by owners during the year 1
- Note:—Notice served in November 1955.*
5. Number of dwellinghouses where work was carried out by the Town Council during the year after failure of the owners to do so Nil.
 6. Number of dwellinghouses for which water closets were provided during the year at instance of Town Council without notice under Section 246 17

WATER (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1946.

7. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notice was given during the year under Section 54 of the Water (Scotland) Act, 1946, requiring provision of inside water supply and sink 1
8. Number of dwellinghouses in which requirements were complied with by the owners during the year 1
9. Number of dwellinghouses in which work was carried out by the Town Council during the year after failure of owners to do so Nil
10. Number of dwellinghouses in which inside water supply and sink were provided during the year at the instance of Town Council without notice under Section 54 2

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1950.

The Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, reproduces in consolidated form without amendment, the law contained in the former Housing (Scotland) Acts, 1925 to 1949 and in certain other enactments relating to housing in Scotland.

11. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served during the year under Section 7 (1) Nil.
12. Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit for human habitation during the year following on notices under Section 7 (1) Nil.
13. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which work was carried out during the year by the Town Council under Section 8 (1) and (2) Nil.
14. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which, in terms of Section 10, a Demolition Order or Closing Order under Section 9 (4) has been substituted during the year for a notice under Section 7 (1) Nil.
15. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served during the year in terms of Section 9 (1) 155

16. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which following on notice under Section 9 (1):—
- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| (a) Undertaking has been given during the year that the house will not be used for human habitation until it has been rendered so fit | Nil. |
| (b) Undertaking has been given during the year that the house will be rendered fit | Nil. |
| (c) Demolition Orders have been made during the year under Section 9 (4) | 119 |
| (d) Closing Orders have been made during the year under Sections 9 (4) and 11 (1) | 36 |
17. Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit during the year following on undertaking under Section 9 (2) Nil.
18. Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit for human habitation during the year at the instance of the Town Council Nil.
19. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders have in terms of Section 9 (4) been determined by the Town Council during the year following upon houses having been rendered fit for human habitation .. 4
20. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which advances have been made during the year in terms of Section 75 towards cost of repairs and the amount so advanced (50 per cent. grant in 19 cases, and maximum grant in the remaining four) 23
21. The general character of defects found were:—
- Insufficient sanitary accommodation.
 - Dampness, lack of damp proof course, lack of or insufficient sub-floor ventilation.
 - No through ventilation, lack of open spaces round buildings, and lack of paving and drainage of areas.
 - Defective roofing, grates, chimneys, plasterwork, floors, windows, and walls.
 - Inadequate natural lighting.
 - Lack of/or insufficient washing facilities and cupboard accommodation.
 - Defective and insanitary drainage.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1897.

Under the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, one hundred and fifty-one intimations were issued in respect of defects existing in dwellinghouses, and of these 51 referred to dampness, eight to defective chimneys, two to defective floors, four to defective ceilings, 36 to defective roofs, and 50 to general defects.

There can be no gainsaying the fact that this routine inspection work, although very mundane, is nevertheless, supremely important, affecting, as it most certainly does, a not inconsiderable number of the population.

Housing (Repairs and Rents) (Scotland) Act, 1954:

The provisions of this Act introduced a new slum clearance policy requiring Local Authorities to draw up a programme of clearance and replacement of unfit houses, with power and financial assistance to buy unfit houses at site value, and to make improvements where immediate demolition was impracticable. This Act also introduced measures to allow some increase in rents of controlled houses with safeguards to ensure that repairs were made, and that the property was adequately maintained.

PART I.

The proposals of the Local Authority specifying the number of unfit houses, how these are to be dealt with, and the number of new houses required to facilitate the rehousing of the occupants were submitted to the Department of Health for Scotland in August 1955, and were reported in full in last year's Report.

Since these proposals were submitted in August 1955, one hundred and fifty-five houses were dealt with under Section 9 (4) of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, and sixty-seven families living in unfit houses were rehoused while four Closing Orders were determined within the same period, as a result of which the number of unfit houses within the Burgh is 1,045.

PART II.

The following return submitted to the Department of Health for Scotland shows the action taken under Part 2 of the Act since it came into operation in August 1954 to 31st December 1956, viz.:—

1. CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR ISSUED UNDER SECTION 18 (1) OF THE ACT:—

- (a) Dwellinghouses which have been the subject of a notice of repairs increase of rent under Part 2 of the 1954 Act:—

APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR.

Number of applicants for Certificates	30
Number of Certificates granted	27
Number of Certificates refused	2
Number of Certificates withdrawn	1
Number of Certificates under consideration	Nil.

APPLICATIONS FOR REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR.

Number of applications for revocation of Certificates	10
Number of applications granted	*10
Number of applications refused	Nil.
Number of applications still under consideration	1

* Note:—Includes one Certificate of Disrepair which was revoked by the Sheriff.

- (b) Dwellinghouses which have not been the subject of a notice of repairs increase of rent under the 1954 Act, but, in respect of which permitted increase of rent is recoverable under Section 2 (1) (c) and (d) of the increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1920.

APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES.

Number of Applications for Certificates	7
Number of Certificates granted	6
Number of Certificates refused	Nil.
Number of Certificates under consideration	1

APPLICATIONS FOR REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATES.

Number of applications for revocation of Certificates	1
Number of applications granted	Nil.
Number of applications refused	Nil.
Number of Certificates under consideration	1

New Houses Completed:

During the year 68 traditional and 159 non-traditional houses were completed and occupied at the Aberdour Road (Third Development) Housing Scheme. These 227 comprised 16 traditional houses of two apartments principally erected for persons coming under the aged persons group, 69 non-traditional houses of three apartments, 90 non-traditional houses of four apartments, and 52 traditional houses comprising 26 three apartments and 26 of four apartments erected by the Scottish Special Housing Association, Ltd., for general purposes. Eleven traditional houses comprising 8 of one apartment erected for single persons, two houses of three apartments, and one house of four apartments were erected and occupied on gap sites in the St. Leonard's Scheme, thus completing the thirty-eight gap site houses at the St. Leonard's Scheme. Eight single apartment houses for single persons were erected on a gap site at Leny Place (Bellyeoman Scheme). Four houses built under contract by the Town Council were allocated to the Fife Constabulary, while ten houses were built by private persons during the period under review. The above may be summarised as follows:—

Houses Built by Local Authority:—

Non-Traditional:—

Aberdour Road Scheme	155
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Traditional:—

Aberdour Road Scheme	16
St. Leonard's Gap Sites	11
Leny Place	8

<i>Houses Built by Scottish Special Housing Association Ltd., at the Aberdour Road Scheme (General Purposes)</i>	52
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<i>Houses Built by Private Persons</i>	10
------------------------------------------------	----

<i>Houses allocated to Police Authorities</i>	4
-------------------------------------------------------	---

Total	<u>256</u>
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Private Houses Altered:

General improvements to 44 houses involving in the majority of cases the installation of suitable sanitary arrangements, bathroom and hot water supply, were carried out during the year. Improvement grants in respect of twenty-three of these houses were granted, nineteen owners received a grant of 50 per cent. and the remaining four the maximum grant of £400.

New Houses under Construction or Contracted for:

Development of the Aberdour Road site continues, while gap sites are being developed at Leny Place, Baldrigeburn, and Main Street and Dundas Street, Townhill.

The position may be summarised as follows:—

Local Authority:

Scheme.	Under Construction.	Not Commenced.	Total.
<i>Aberdour Road</i>			
Miller	108	—	108
Lanarkshire (Bellstone Houses) . . .	133	137	270
Shopping Centre (8 flats over shops),	8	—	8
<i>Gap Sites</i>			
Baldrigeburn (2 x 3 apartments) . .	2	—	2
Main Street, Townhill (2 x 3 apartments)	2	—	2
Dundas Street, Townhill (12 x 4-apartments)	12	—	12
Total	265	137	402

Scottish Special Housing Association Ltd.:

Scheme.	Under Construction.	Not Commenced.	Total.
Aberdour Road (General Needs)	113	—	113
Total	113	—	113

Site Acquisition for Development:

Sites Acquired:

Location.	Area.
Aberdour Road	29.321 acres
Headwell Avenue	1.44 acres
25-27 High Beveridgewell07 acres
7-19 Loch Street, Townhill15 acres
Woodmill Road91 acres
	<u>31.891 acres</u>

Sites in Course of Acquisition:

Location.	Area.
62 Mid Bevcridgewell293 acres
17-19 Golfdrum Street13 acres
Park Road, Rosyth	4.49 acres
	<u>4.913 acres</u>

Notices Requiring Admission:

In terms of Section 159 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, eighteen notices were served on the occupiers of houses who refused to grant admission to an inspector. Generally, these notices applied to occupiers whose standard of cleanliness is low and who show resentment on being kept under surveillance. Subsequent admission was granted in each case following the service of these notices.

Inspections Regarding Cleanliness:

The inspection of these houses in respect of cleanliness is done by regular monthly visitation. As soon as an unsatisfactory occupier or a problem family becomes known, a visit is paid to the home when an endeavour is made to effect an improvement in the

condition of same and where necessary notices are served under the Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892. Wherever possible the policy adopted is to discuss the problem in a firm but amicable manner, and guide in a diplomatic way rather than the adoption of available legal powers. The majority of cases respond after a period, but, of course, there is a percentage usually of the "Problem Family" group who, on account of misfortune or other vicissitudes of life, fail to show improvement or a sense of responsibility although subject to constant supervision. The number of houses subject to regular inspection is seventy-six, representing approximately .5 per cent. of the total number of houses in the Burgh.

During the year one hundred and ninety-four inspections were made to these seventy-six houses, comprising one hundred and forty to Corporation houses and fifty-four to privately owned houses. In consequence of these inspections, twelve written notices and sixty-one verbal intimations were issued. Re-inspections of the houses concerned were carried out to ascertain the extent if any of the response to these notices and verbal intimations.

Four visits of inspection were made to the Hostel Block, Townhill, where conditions were found satisfactory.

Rehousing of Families:

(1) OVERCROWDED.

One hundred and ninety-six families living overcrowded (including 34 families having a member in ill-health, 39 families living in unfit houses, 8 families having a tubercular member, and 19 families where overcrowding was abated as the result of suitable exchanges being granted) were rehoused during the year, and of these 178 were rehoused into Corporation owned houses, while 18 mining families living overcrowded were housed in the S.S.H.A. houses for miners at the Aberdour Road, St. Leonard's, and Woodmill Housing Schemes.

(2) LIVING IN UNFIT HOUSES.

Sixty-seven families living in unfit houses (including 39 families living overcrowded as mentioned above) were rehoused, 38 into Corporation houses of over two apartments in size, 10 into two apartment houses for persons coming under the aged persons group, 14 into one apartment houses for single persons, 4 mining families into the S.S.H.A. houses for miners in the Aberdour Road and Woodmill Housing Schemes, and 1 into Corporation old property.

(3) LIVING IN LODGINGS.

Sixty-six families living in lodgings (including 8 families having a tubercular member) were rehoused and of these 30 were rehoused

into Corporation temporary houses, 19 into permanent houses, 7 into Corporation old property, and 10 mining families into the S.S.H.A. houses for miners in the Aberdour Road, St. Leonard's, and Woodmill Housing Schemes.

(4) WITH ILLNESS.

Thirty-eight families having a member in ill-health (including 34 families also living overcrowded as mentioned above) were rehoused and of these 36 were rehoused in Corporation property, while the remaining 2 were rehoused in the S.S.H.A. houses for miners at the Aberdour Road Housing Scheme.

(5) TRANSFERS.

Thirty-four transfers were granted during the year, of which 29 were granted to families living in temporary prefabricated houses and the remaining 5 to Corporation tenants already residing in permanent houses. In addition to the above, 10 mining families residing outwith the Burgh were rehoused in the S.S.H.A. houses for miners in the Aberdour Road and St. Leonard's Housing Schemes.

(6) EXCHANGES.

One hundred and thirty-five exchanges were also granted, 101 of these being granted to Corporation tenants, 16 to the tenants of privately owned houses to Corporation houses, and 18 to tenants residing outwith the Burgh to Corporation houses. As a result of these exchanges being granted, 19 cases of overcrowding were abated.

(7) FAMILIES RECEIVING SPECIAL PRIORITY.

Thirty-nine families receiving special priority were housed during the year, and of these 32 were Admiralty Special Priority, the remaining 7 being Town Council Special Priority applicants.

(8) AGED PERSONS GROUP.

Thirteen families coming under the "Aged Persons Group" (including 10 families living in unfit houses) were rehoused in 2-apartment houses in the Aberdour Road Housing Scheme.

(9) HOUSES FOR SINGLE PERSONS.

Sixteen single female persons qualifying for single person houses were housed in 1-apartment houses erected on gap sites in the St. Leonard's Housing Scheme and Leny Place.

Housing Applications:

The housing applications of 757 tenants were dealt with during the year, and of these 491 were new while the remaining 266 were for re-assessment on account of changes in circumstances. At the

end of the year there were 4,031 applications for housing accommodation, comprising the following groups, viz.:—

Tenants known to be living overerowed	1,120
Families living as sub-tenants	1,733
Single female persons who qualify for consideration for 1-apartment houses	221
Applicants working in Burgh with families living outwith the Burgh ..	347
Aged persons who qualify for consideration for 2-apartment houses ..	359
Applications from tenants without points under the present letting scheme,	179
Applications from tenants with points but not overerowed	72

The overcrowded standard is based on the recommendation of D.H.S. Circular No. 149/44 dated 19th October 1944.

Overcrowding :

(A) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved as a result of action taken by the Local Authority and the number of persons concerned from date of Housing Survey, 1935, to end of 1956.	Houses.		Persons.
	2,884		15,558
(B) (a) Number of houses of each size <i>i.e.</i> , 1-apartment, 2-apartments, etc., in which overcrowding has been relieved during the same period as a result of action taken by the Local Authority distinguishing (1) privately owned houses (2) Local Authority houses.	Apts.	Private.	Local Authority.
	1	486	21
	2	1,428	153
	3	290	411
	4	85	39
		2,289	624
(b) Total number of overcrowded families included in (1) and (2) who have been re-housed in privately owned houses.	156 (of which 155 came from privately owned houses and one from a Corporation house).		
(C) Number of known cases in which dwellinghouses in respect of which the Local Authority have relieved overcrowding have again become overcrowded.	119 (of which 105 were privately owned and 14 were Corporation houses).		
(D) Are steps being taken to secure that the re-housing of families living under the worst conditions are provided for first as regards overcrowding or otherwise living under unsatisfactory conditions?	Yes, by means of "Points Scheme."		
Details of system under which families are selected for occupation of new or vacated Local Authority houses.	1. Number in family and size of house.		
	2. Sex separation.		
	3. Tuberculosis or other illness.		
	4. Structural condition of house.		
	5. Disabled ex-Servicemen in receipt of disability pension receive points in proportion to the percentage of pension.		
	6. Waiting time—1 point for every five years on the housing list.		
	7. Expectant mother receives an additional 2 points.		
(E) Any observations with regard to general position of overcrowding in the Burgh.	At the end of the year there were 180 houses (1144 houses based on D.H.S. Circular 149/44) known to be overcrowded by the occupier and his family.		

Of the 1,144 houses mentioned above, 24 refer to overcrowded prefabricated temporary houses.

The following tables show the known cases of overcrowding existing at 31st December 1956 in terms of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1950:—

Ward.	1 Apt.	2 Apts	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
1	19	29	4	—	—	52
2	5	26	9	—	—	40
3	21	17	3	—	—	41
4	6	3	6	1	—	16
5	—	3	1	1	—	5
6	—	—	1	2	—	3
7	—	1	4	17	1	23
Totals .. .	51	79	28	21	1	180

	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
Dunfermline ..	49	55	13	2	—	119
Rosyth	—	1	4	19	1	25
Townhill.. ..	2	11	—	—	—	13
Kingseat.. ..	—	2	—	—	—	2
Corporation..	—	10	11	—	—	21
Totals .. .	51	79	28	21	1	180

Number of houses known to be overcrowded in terms of D.H.S. Circular 149/1944:—

Wards.	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
1	67	237	65	6	4	379
2	10	128	41	8	—	187
3	81	170	66	5	—	322
4	16	33	45	9	2	105
5	1	6	14	5	2	28
6	—	1	10	24	2	37
7	—	3	30	29	—	62
Totals .. .	175	578	271	86	10	1120

	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
Dunfermline ..	168	476	176	15	3	838
Rosyth	—	3	32	49	2	86
Townhill.. ..	5	58	3	1	—	67
Kingseat.. ..	2	14	1	—	—	17
Corporation..	—	27	59	21	5	112
Totals .. .	175	578	271	86	10	1120

In addition to the 1,120 houses mentioned above, there were 24 temporary houses overcrowded at the end of the year.

New Houses:

The undernoted table gives the number of houses erected and converted since the coming into operation of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1919, by (a) Town Council, and (b) Private Enterprise, showing the number of rooms exclusive of scullery and bathroom, viz.:—

	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
1919-50.. .. .	6	204	1983	2289	451	4933
1951.. .. .	—	—	12	96	16	124
1952.. .. .	—	—	109	128	27	264
1953.. .. .	—	16	168	144	16	344
1954.. .. .	4	28	203	158	66	459
1955.. .. .	8	39	192	222	20	481
1956.. .. .	16	20	127	132	5	300
Totals .. .	34	307	2794	3169	601	6905

The Town Council is the owner of 3,971 houses, and of these 116 are non-subsidy houses, 196 are 3-apartment temporary (pre-fabricated houses (four temporary houses were demolished during the year on account of subsidence caused by old mine workings), and 50 aluminium (permanent) houses, the remainder, namely 3609, being subsidised under the various Housing Acts. In addition, the Town Council owns 56 old houses which were built prior to the Housing and Town Planning (Scotland) Act, 1919.

In addition, the Town Council, through the agency of the Housing Manager, Mr James H. Turner, factors 562 houses belonging to the Scottish Special Housing Association which are let exclusively to miners and situated at the Woodmill, St. Leonard's, and Aberdour Road Housing Schemes and also 52 houses for general needs belonging to the same Association.

Forty-three other houses coming under the following categories are factored by the Housing Manager. These comprise:—

	Number,	Owner.
1. Baths	4	Town Council
2. Burial Grounds	4	Town Council
3. Cleansing	1	Town Council
4. Common Good	8	Town Council
5. Forth Road Bridge	9	Forth Road Bridge Joint Board
6. General Improvements	9	Town Council
7. Public Health	1	Town Council
8. Public Lighting	1	Town Council
9. Slaughterhouse	1	Town Council
10. Streets	5	Town Council
	<hr/>	
Total	43	
	<hr/>	

Houses Represented:

One hundred and fifty-five houses were represented in terms of Section 9 (1) of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, and the Town Council ultimately made Demolition Orders in respect of one hundred and nineteen of these houses and Closing Orders in respect of the remaining thirty-six houses.

Ninety-eight houses which had already been dealt with by the Town Council under Section 9 (4) of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, were still used for human habitation at the end of the year. These consist of:—

(a) Demolition Orders	68
(b) Closing Orders	30
	<hr/>
Total	98
	<hr/>

The following tables show the size and situation of the houses dealt with under Section 9 (1) of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950:—

Ward.	1 Apt.	2 Apts	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
1	17	32	20	—	1	70
2	—	5	2	—	—	7
3	16	45	12	3	2	78
4	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	33	82	34	3	3	155

	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
Dunfermline ..	33	77	32	3	3	148
Townhill	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kingseat	—	5	2	—	—	7
Rosyth	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pattiesmuir ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	33	82	34	3	3	155

Houses Listed:

The undernoted tables show the size and situation of the known unfit houses at 31st December 1956, viz.:—

Ward.	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
1	132	323	84	11	1	551
2	20	69	13	6	2	110
3	50	167	45	18	2	282
4	4	29	2	—	—	35
5	14	22	6	—	—	42
6	—	—	1	—	—	1
7	1	20	3	—	—	24
Totals	221	630	154	35	5	1045

	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
Dunfermline ..	214	530	149	35	5	933
Townhill	4	44	—	—	—	48
Kingseat	2	36	2	—	—	40
Pattiesmuir ..	1	7	1	—	—	9
Rosyth	—	13	2	—	—	15
Totals	221	630	154	35	5	1045

Unfit Houses:

One hundred and seventeen houses were closed either after representation in terms of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, or by

arrangement with the owner, as a result of which the position relative to houses actually closed at 31st December 1956 is shown hereunder:—

	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
1926-40	215	442	79	31	11	778
1941	—	—	—	—	—	—
1942	—	1	—	—	—	1
1943	—	—	—	—	—	—
1944	—	1	—	—	—	1
1945	—	1	—	—	—	1
1946	3	3	—	2	—	8
1947	1	2	—	—	—	3
1948	5	16	5	—	—	26
1949	6	15	8	1	—	30
1950	—	1	1	2	—	4
1951	16	29	5	3	—	53
1952	11	41	6	1	1	60
1953	21	43	8	5	1	78
1954	8	49	6	1	5	69
1955	17	64	13	2	1	97
1956	24	73	19	1	—	117
Totals	327	781	150	49	19	1,326

FOOD SUPPLY.

Milk:

Dairy farming is a popular branch of agriculture carried on within the Burgh, which extends to some seven thousand six hundred and seventy-four acres and has thirteen farms within its precincts, of which ten are engaged to a greater extent in the production of milk. Approximately two-thirds of this milk is sold by retail for consumption within the Burgh, while the remainder, which is subject to direction by the Milk Marketing Board, is collected or delivered to the local creamery for processing and distribution to consumers within and outwith the Burgh.

Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914:

The following registrations were in force at the end of the year:—

Number of registered producers of milk	10
Number of registered premises where milk is processed and/or bottled ..	3
Number of registered retail purveyors of milk	16
Number of registered producers and wholesale dealers who do not sell milk by retail	4
Number of registered retail premises	28
Number of registered retail vehicles operating in the Burgh	29
Number of Dairies exempt from registration	Nil.
Approximate number of cows in registered premises	359
Number of inspections of registered premises	48

Improvements instituted during the year included the installation of a mechanical bottle-washing machine to supersede an existing

hand bottle-washing machine at one dairy. The hand-washing machine is incidentally maintained to deal with exceptionally dirty bottles that careless consumers have abused or omitted to clean. Samples of washed bottles taken from this dairy have been satisfactory and show an improvement on the hand-washing method, which can to a large extent be attributed to the commonsense management and adequate care exercised in the operation of the machine. Bottle-washing machines, although greatly improved over the past few years remain the weakest link in the distribution of clean milk. The walls of the milk store of the same premises were tiled to a height of six feet to facilitate rapid and effective cleansing. Another producer on account of a defect in his sterilising plant installed new churn washing equipment. Byres, milk-stores, and dairy sculleries were whitewashed in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the local byelaws.

There were no applications for upgrading during the year, and the position remains the same as reported in 1955, viz.:—

Certified	2
Tuberculin Tested	8

Regular inspections, numbering forty-eight in all, were made to all dairies, including byres, milk-houses, and sculleries, and intimations had on occasions to be sent to dairymen drawing attention to the following unhygienic conditions, viz.:—

- (1) Dirty condition of the cows and byres.
- (2) Cleansing and limewashing of byres and milk stores.
- (3) Method of cleansing and storing utensils.
- (4) The use of uncovered milk pails.
- (5) Unsatisfactory condition of dungsteads.
- (6) The practice of milkers not wearing overalls.
- (7) Defective condition of premises.

Milk, in common with many other foods, is liable to assimilate a variety of taints, and one such complaint was received from a dairyman who purchases a bulk supply of milk from premises outwith the burgh.

The milk in question had a garlic taste and emitted a similar odour, particularly on being subjected to heat and such abnormal flavours are by no means conducive to good health. Following a thorough inspection of the dairy premises which revealed no apparent cause, samples were taken and submitted for bacterial examination and chemical analysis. The Bacteriologist reported that the taint could not be attributed to bacterial cause, while the Analyst reported that the cause was probably due to odoriferous foodstuffs ingested by the herd or left lying in the vicinity of the dairy. It was after-

wards discovered that the herd had recently been removed to new pastures where an unusual weed existed. The cause for complaint was removed within several days.

A Pasteuriser's Licence is held by the local Co-operative Society, and an average of 6,000 gallons from approximately one hundred producers is pasteurised daily. The Cherry-Burrell Pasteurisation Plant installed in 1944 continues to give satisfaction, and during the year twenty-four samples were taken from the plant, all of which were reported to be satisfactory. Twenty-eight visits of inspection were made to the premises to ascertain the hygienic conditions existing therein and to check thermometer charts. At the end of the year the premises were due for general cleaning and painting of walls and roof, while the chill room required to be limewashed. This work will be carried out early in the year.

The Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Order, 1934:

The requirements of this Order were kept in mind during routine inspections with a view to securing the necessary compliance. One retailer who had apparently sold or delivered all his half-pint bottles was caught in the act of filling a half-pint bottle from a large container which was in course of delivery to an Institution, while another, in an endeavour to provide shop-keepers with half-pints, resorted to splitting full pints on his vehicle. These two retailers were officially notified and further inspections revealed compliance with the Order. Bulk milk supplies arriving at the local Creamery were kept under close scrutiny to ensure proper mode of transport, hygienic handling on delivery, and the general condition of bulk containers.

The Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949:

Since the Burgh became a Specified Area there have been no adverse repercussions, the general trend being for upgrading. A small quantity of non-designated bulk milk from outwith the Burgh is pasteurised at the local Creamery before distribution by retail under the Special Designation Pasteurised which the Society is authorised to use. All catering and manufacturing establishments, including those registered to manufacture ice-cream, were kept under surveillance to ensure the authenticity of milk supplies.

The Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) Order, 1951:

In accordance with the provisions of the above Order, all licences granted under the Order expired on the 31st day of December

1956, and in any fifth succeeding year thereafter, in consequence of which applications for new and the renewal of existing licences to use special designations in relation to milk produced, treated, and sold within the Burgh were received at the end of the year. The following table shows the number and type of applications received and granted:—

Designation.	Producers.	Dealers.	TYPE OF LICENCE.		Totals.
			Dealers Supple- mentary.	Pasteuriser.	
Certified	2	2	1	—	5
Tuberculin Tested.. .	8	8	5	—	21
Pasteurised	—	12	—	1	13
Totals.. . . .	10	22	6	1	39

There was one application for upgrading from Tuberculin Tested to Certified from the holder of a dealer's supplementary licence to sell the special designation Tuberculin Tested, and following the appropriate conformable samples being taken and the granting of a dealer's principal licence by the Local Authority in whose area his premises were situated, the requisite licence was granted by the Town Council.

Two hundred and twenty-five samples of designated milk were submitted to the bacteriologist for examination, and of these 34 failed to comply with the requirements of the Order, but, following the taking of subsequent samples, conformable results were obtained. A summary of the above results is shown in Appendix 9.

The Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1932:

Steps were taken to ensure the necessary compliance in terms of the Regulations, and no contravention was detected.

The Public Health (Condensed Milk) (Scotland) Regulations, 1931:

A sample of Condensed Machine Skimmed Milk (Sweetened) and one of Condensed Full Cream (Unsweetened) Milk were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for examination.

The Analyst reported the above samples to be genuine, while labelling conformed to the Regulations.

The Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations (Scotland), 1931:

One sample of Dried Full Cream Milk and one sample of Dried Half Cream Milk were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst, who reported these samples to be genuine.

Cleanliness of Milk and Other Bottles:

Twenty-five washed bottles, comprising nineteen milk, four lemonade, and two beer, were submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination. Twenty-one bottles were reported satisfactory while the remaining four were reported unsatisfactory on account of high bacterial count. The question of unsatisfactory bottles was taken up with the dairymen and manufacturers concerned and repeat samples showed that the necessary action had been taken to improve washing and sterilisation methods.

Biological Examination of Milk:

Sixteen samples of milk, comprising three Certified Milk and thirteen Tuberculin Tested Milk, were taken and submitted to the Bacteriologist for biological examination, to ascertain the presence or absence of Tubercule Bacillus. The Bacteriologist reported that all these samples proved negative, the guinea pigs inoculated with these milks having revealed no evidence of tuberculosis at autopsy six weeks after injection.

The Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations (Scotland), 1925-27:

During the year, forty formal samples, comprising fifteen mince, fifteen link sausages, and ten slicing sausage, were taken in terms of the Regulations and submitted to the Public Analyst, who reported that all these samples were genuine with the exception of one sample of mince which failed on account of the presence of Sulphur Dioxide outwith the permitted months. Proceedings were instituted against the butcher concerned, who pleaded guilty to the charge but on account of the small amount of the preservative reported, he was admonished by the Sheriff.

Labelling of Food Orders:

The requirements of these Orders were kept in view when inspecting shops and other premises where food is sold. In one case a contravention was brought to the notice of the management.

Merchandise Marks Act, 1926:

Regular inspections, numbering thirty-six, were made to secure that imported foods not exempted by the Board of Trade bore the necessary notice declaring their place of origin. It was found

necessary as a result of these inspections to serve eight written notices and to give fourteen verbal warnings in respect of contraventions.

The majority of these notices and warnings related to imported fruit and particularly to tomatoes, sold from vendors' vehicles, whose prevalent excuse was that, on account of weather conditions, it was impossible to display a ticket. The advent of enclosed vehicles will no doubt remove this excuse.

Unsound Food:

During the year 6 tons, 11 cwts, 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ ozs. of Tinned Foodstuffs and 1 cwt. 3 qrs. 9 lbs. 4 ozs. of other foodstuffs were dealt with under Section 43 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, and Sections 9-11 of the Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956, the former section having been repealed by the latter in August 1956.

Slaughterhouse:

The Public Slaughterhouse which is managed and supervised by the Superintendent, Mr Laurence P. Russell, was visited on twenty-three occasions, which, despite its dilapidated condition and unsuitable layout, was well administered by the Superintendent and his staff. I am indebted to the Superintendent for the undernoted information which shows the number and type of animals slaughtered and condemned during the year.

Stock	Slaught- ered	Wholly Con- demned	Partly Con- demned	Meat lbs.	CONDEMNATIONS		
					Offals lbs.	Livers lbs.	Plucks No.
Cattle	4,136	*9	9	6,331	10,933	1,031	—
Sheep	7,366	5	—	279	351	—	103
Pigs	1,787	—	—	—	89	—	17
Calves	698	3	—	101	29	—	3

* Five carcasses were wholly condemned owing to Tuberculosis.

Certain repairs, on a temporary basis, were carried out to the premises during the year, but, as the Town Council are negotiating the erection of a new Slaughterhouse, only the very essential repairs were executed. The main drainage system, on account of recurring chokage, was overhauled and four inspection manholes were installed to facilitate regular and efficient cleansing.

The efficient distribution of meat and meat products to the community has long been recognised to be a matter of primary economic and hygienic importance, and although butchers and carriers have been slow to adopt new and improved methods of transportation there has been a steady advancement over the past

few years. At the end of the year a wholesale meat dealer received delivery of a modern meat transport container. This meat container, which is portable, sits on an ordinary five ton lorry chassis with a special connection to the gearbox for the mechanical operation of the hydraulic lifting mechanism. The lifting mechanism lifts carcasses vertically and places them on hooks fixed to sliding pulleys on longitudinal rails fixed to the roof of the container. Carcasses hang vertically during transportation, and on delivery are unloaded in a similar manner by the lifting mechanism. The whole of the interior of the meat container is lined with metal for rapid and effective cleansing. There are three rails on the roof each capable of taking approximately ten sides of beef. It is hoped that in the near future meat traders may speculate in such hygienic means of transportation and acquire one on a communal basis.

Cattle Auction Market:

The cattle auction market and its adjuncts at Upper Station Road are the only premises in the Burgh which come under this category and could be termed as transit accommodation for cattle before auction. Cattle lairage for six hundred animals is available, but this number is rarely, if ever, housed on these premises. The vehicles and floats used for the transportation of animals are washed and disinfected on a modern, well drained washbed which is operated and staffed by the Burgh Cleansing Department. Regular inspections, numbering twenty-two in all, were made to these premises, and on two occasions exception had to be taken to the irregular removal of animal manure, which is normally removed by private contractors.

Bakehouses:

The fifteen bakeries operating within the Burgh were regularly inspected, involving one hundred and thirteen visits, as a result of which seven verbal and twenty written intimations were issued relative to unsatisfactory conditions existing on these premises.

The unsatisfactory conditions observed included:—

1. Floors, walls, and ceilings requiring to be cleansed and/or limewashed or painted.
2. General register not kept up to date and routine limewashing overdue.
3. General hygienic defects in the preparation, handling, and storage of bread and flour confectionery.
4. Presence of flies and other insects.
5. Defective structural conditions and equipment.
6. Miscellaneous contraventions of the Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

The following improvements were noted during the year:—

1. Substitution of impervious painted surfaces for limewashed surfaces.
2. Provision of improved ventilation.
3. Installation of automatic washing machine for bakery equipment.
4. Sealing of roof space with impervious material.
5. Improvement in W.C. and washing accommodation.
6. Higher incidence of sealing flour confectionery in diophane wrappings.

The general trend is towards better hygienic standards and structural improvements. With the advent of the Food Hygiene Regulations more stringent measures will be applied with resulting over-all raising of standards in technique, structure, and equipment.

Premises for the Preparation and Sale of Foodstuffs:

Places of Public Refreshment:

There are twenty-eight registered premises coming under the category of cafes, tea rooms, and restaurants in the Burgh, and these were regularly inspected, involving ninety-eight inspections, as a result of which eleven written and twenty-four verbal intimations were issued in respect of certain unsatisfactory conditions obtaining therein. These intimations related to:—

1. Cleanliness of walls, ceilings, and floors.
2. Painting and/or limewashing of toilets.
3. Handling and storage of food.
4. Cleanliness of food preparing and cooking utensils.
5. Cleanliness and condition of crockery and cutlery.
6. Minor unhygienic conditions.

A snack bar was erected at the main local bus terminal to supersede an old converted bus which, since the war years, was used for a similar purpose. This innovation marks great progress and achieves standards to be aimed at in the future. The provision of separate toilet accommodation for the sexes is highly desirable, and wherever practicable proprietors are obliged to provide the necessary accommodation. Two premises had toilets installed during the year, while in another two cases proprietors had received estimates for the required additional installations, which will probably be installed early in the new year. Extensive alterations involving a new brick annex to facilitate kitchen, sitting, and toilet accommodation were carried out to one restaurant which hitherto had been hygienically unsuitable.

These premises were generally well maintained and managed during the year, with the exception of one cafe which is meantime unsuitable for the purpose, but the proprietor has given assurances.

so far unfulfilled. that he will bring his premises up to the required standard.

School Central Kitchens:

These premises, numbering three in all, were regularly inspected during the year, when it was found that they were well managed and supervised by their respective supervisors.

Licensed Premises:

The twenty-eight licensed premises in the Burgh were regularly inspected during the year, involving thirty-nine visits, as a result of which thirteen written and four verbal intimations were issued. The general tendency in these premises is for improvement, and during the year extensive structural alterations were carried out to three other premises. Many publicans have replaced their metal beer pipe lines with transparent plastic tubing to facilitate easy and rapid cleansing. Glass washing machines do not seem to be favoured by many, as during the year no new installations have been installed, although at the end of the year the proprietor of a licensed hotel was negotiating for a new glass washer of an improved type. The attention of proprietors on several occasions was directed to the inadequacy of provision for drying hands, etc., following ablution, but in the main these amenities were provided and maintained.

Aerated Water Works:

During the year sixteen visits were made to the five premises engaged in the manufacture and bottling of aerated waters, as a result of which one written and five verbal intimations were issued in respect of general unhygienic conditions existing therein. In one manufacturer's premises additional accommodation was provided for the storage of empty boxes which is always a serious problem in such establishments. Samples of washed bottles were regularly taken to ensure efficiency of bottle washing plants, and as a result of unsatisfactory samples from one factory the bottle washing plant was thoroughly overhauled.

Bacon Factory:

Regular inspections were made to the bacon factory, when conditions were found satisfactory. Plans for major alterations, including the installation of new toilet accommodation, were passed towards the end of the year and the work commenced early in 1957.

There were six complaints in respect of the unhygienic condition or unsoundness of foodstuffs received during the year, viz.:—

(a) MILK ALLEGED TO BE DEFICIENT IN FAT:

A pint bottle of Pasteurised milk was brought to the office by the complainant who made formal protest in respect of deficiency in butter fat judged by the small cream line. The sample was sent to the Public Analyst who reported that the sample contained 3.2 per cent. fat, and although not abundant in fat, nevertheless conformed to the legal standard. The poor cream line can be attributed to the breaking up and distribution of the fat globules during treatment.

(b) DIRTY MILK BOTTLE:

Another complaint was in connection with the delivery of milk contained in a dirty bottle. The bottle on visual inspection was found to have a layer of black oil adhering to its sides and investigations at the producers' premises revealed that on account of illness the cleansing and sterilisation of milk bottles was delegated to an inexperienced youth who had overlooked the cleansing of this bottle. Additional attention was thereafter directed to the cleansing of bottles and this precaution prevented further complaints.

(c) DETECTION OF MELANOSIS:

Part of the leaf seam of a pig's udder was brought to the office for examination, when the presence of melanosis was detected. This condition although not detrimental to health is rarely found outwith the slaughterhouse, and on investigation it was found that the pork was imported. The wholesale importers concerned were notified.

(d) UNSOUND BUTTER:

A half pound block of imported butter was another subject of complaint. The butter emitted a heavy odour and tasted very strongly. The vendor responsible on being interviewed admitted that he had received delivery of the butter some weeks before, but, had not been able to sell it as quickly as expected. The rest of the butter was retained and no further complaints were received.

(e) MEAT PIE WITH MOULDS:

A steak pie contained in an enamelled pie dish gave rise for concern. The meat in the pie was covered with a black mould and the crust revealed that no vent hole had been left. A visit to the shop concerned revealed that the pies were manufactured in premises outwith the Burgh, that the demand on this commodity was great, and that an average of three pies per week were returned on account of this mould. Notification was thereafter sent to the Authority concerned who advised the manufacturers to overhaul their manufacturing process, after which no further complaints were received and subsequent visits to the shop concerned revealed that the cause for concern had been removed.

(f) CHIPPED MILK BOTTLES:

Two complaints, relative to chipped bottles delivered at schools were received. Investigations proved that the rough handling during transport mainly accounted for the complaint. An intimation to the firm concerned resulted in the removal from circulation of the chipped bottles and a reprimand to the drivers. The question of cartons was investigated but in view of the expense involved both in the cost of cartons and the adaptation of existing plant the matter has meantime been abandoned.

(g) FLY BLOWN BACON IN GROCER'S SHOP:

A hygiene conscious youth lodged a complaint regarding unsound bacon being exposed for sale in a grocer's shop. A visit to the premises confirmed his complaint revealing sliced bacon exposed on a shelf near

the entrance to the shop and minus protection from dust or flies. A close examination revealed the bacon to be discoloured and fly blown and certainly unfit for human consumption. The bacon was seized and the circumstances intimated to the manager. Further visits revealed that this very objectionable practice had ceased.

The Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and the Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956:

The Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956, came into operation at the end of July 1956, and in so doing, repealed the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (as it applied to Scotland). The new Act is a consolidating one, which contains, with certain amendments, the main provisions of the old Acts, together with additional powers for the control of food from the public health point of view, and embodies certain other enactments pertaining to food. The main purpose of earlier legislation had been largely the prevention and the detection of the adulteration of food, but this Act includes within its ambit the inspection, seizure, and destruction of unsound food exposed for sale or otherwise, which power (now repealed) was contained in Section 43 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897. Moreover, it introduces several important principles, firstly, its provisions are ultimately designed to give a reasonable standard of hygiene to premises where food is sold, and secondly, the control by registration of food premises. The Department can also make regulations to prevent danger to health arising from the production, sale, and distribution of food and relative to the manufacture and sale of butter, margarine, and milk blended butter largely with the object of preventing fraudulent substitution. The manner of packing and wrapping of butter substitute is meticulously defined in The Labelling of Food (Amendment) (Scotland) Regulation, 1956.

Special powers contained in *ad hoc* Acts relating to horse flesh and shellfish, the latter a frequent cause of infection by gastro enteric disease, are also included in the provisions of the Act, together with statutory notification of all cases of food poisoning. Legal penalties are provided for offences against the Act, not only for adulteration and substitution, but also for the addition of substances which could cumulatively be detrimental to public health. The Act also provides for the formation of a food hygiene council to act in an advisory capacity to the Secretary of State for Scotland on matters pertaining to the general supervision of food intended for human consumption. Extended powers for procuring samples are given, and samples may be taken for bacterial examination as well as for chemical analysis. The Act also permits sampling officers to purchase

samples of alcoholic drinks without contravening the Licensing Act. This additional power conferred on the sampling officer is not fool-proof and often the officer is forced to reveal his identity before he can purchase a sample, this situation arising through the licensee being obliged to establish that all his Sunday partons are *bona-fide* travellers by the signing of a register which is at all times subject to police scrutiny.

Ninety-two formal samples were taken during the year and submitted for analysis to the Public Analyst who reported that all were genuine with one exception, namely, one sample of mince which contained Sulphur Dioxide outwith the permitted period.

This matter was reported to the Procurator-Fiscal, who instituted proceedings against the offending butcher, and the latter, through his agent, admitted the offence, for which he was admonished by the Sheriff.

One hundred and thirty-nine informal or test samples were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst, who certified that all complied with the appropriate standards.

The tables in Appendix eleven show the variety and the result of analysis of both the formal and informal samples.

The figure of 139 informal samples includes samples taken under the following Orders:—

The Food Standards (Soft Drinks) (Amendment) Order, 1954:

Five test samples were taken and all were reported genuine.

The Food Standards (Liquid Coffee Essences) Order, 1954:

Two test samples were taken and both were reported genuine.

The Food Standards (Cream) Order, 1951:

One test sample was taken and reported to be genuine.

The Food Standards (Fish Cakes) Order, 1951:

Four formal and two test samples were taken and all were reported genuine.

The Food Standards (Fish Paste) (Amendment) Order, 1951:

Three test samples were taken and all were reported genuine.

The Food Standards (Preserves) Order, 1953:

Nine test samples were taken and all were reported satisfactory.

The Food Standards (Butter and Margarine) (Scotland) Regulations, 1956:—

Six test samples of butter and five of margarine were taken and all were reported genuine.

The Food Standards (Meat Paste) (Amendment) Order, 1951:

Three test samples were taken and all were reported genuine.

The Food Standards (Mustard) (Amendment, No. 2) Order, 1948:

Two test samples were taken and both were reported genuine.

The Food Standards (Saccharine Tablets) Order, 1953:

Four test samples were taken and all were reported genuine.

The Food Standards (Salad Cream and Mayonnaise) Order, 1945:

Two test samples were taken and both were reported genuine.

Code of Practice—Cream Soups:

Nine test samples were taken and all were reported genuine.

The Food Standards (Suet) Order, 1952: -

One test sample was taken and reported to be genuine.

The Food Standards (Baking Powder and Golden Raising Powder) Order, 1944:

Three test samples of baking powder were taken and all were reported genuine.

The Food Standards (Coffee Mixtures) Order, 1952:

One test sample was taken and reported to be genuine.

The Food Standards (Curry Powder) Order, 1949:

One test sample was taken and reported to be genuine.

The Food Standards (Edible Gelantine) Order, 1949, and Commencement) Order, 1951:

One test sample was taken and reported to be genuine.

The Food Standards (Table Jellies) Order, 1949, and (Scotland) (Amendment) Order, 1955:

Two test samples were taken and both were reported genuine.

The Food Standards (Self Raising Flour) Order, 1946:

Four test samples were taken and all were reported genuine.

The average quality of the milk supply as indicated by twenty-one formal and three informal or test samples was as follows:—

Fat	3.73	
Solids not Fat	8.72	
Total Solids	12.45	
Water	87.55	
		<hr/>
		100.00
		<hr/>

The above figures show the milk to be of good quality and an improvement over last year, as illustrated by the following figures:—

	Fat	Solids not Fat
1954	3.66	8.64
1955	3.66	8.63
1956	3.73	8.72

Butter and Margarine:

The amounts of moisture in butter samples varied from 14.61 per cent. to 15.03 per cent., and in the margarine samples, from 14.26 per cent. to 15.02 per cent., thus conforming as the maximum amount permissible is 16.00 per cent. moisture.

Spirits:

The strength of the twenty formal samples of whisky varied from 28.3 degrees under proof to 33.1 degrees under proof, i.e., from 66.9 per cent. to 71.7 per cent. proof spirit.

Tinned Foods:

Examination with regard to metallic contamination was carried out in all cases and only traces of tin were found, the maximum being .26 grains per lb. of tin.

Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948:

The manufacture of ice cream has been carried on in this country for centuries, but until recent years it had been considered more as a delicacy than as the staple item of everyday diet which it is universally regarded as to-day. Apart from economic reasons, the low consumption of ice cream could also be attributed to lack of confidence in the methods of manufacture, storage, and sale on the part of the consumer. Many remember the ice cream of their childhood produced in small dirty kitchens under the most unhygienic conditions, and are, after a lapse of years, beginning to realise that the ice cream of to-day is manufactured scientifically in premises registered by the Local Authority which are subject to regular

inspection by their officers. The Regulations have no doubt brought the ice cream manufacturer under control but are inadequate in so far as the bacterial count is concerned. There is, as yet, no legal standard, and the recognised standard of 100,000 bacteria per gram, with no coliform bacillus in 1/100th gram, is much too low. It is felt that the time is now opportune when a legal bacterial and coliform standard should be enforced, especially on account of the increasing demand for this commodity. This contention is reinforced when account is taken of the fact that the average bacterial count of eighty-one samples taken in the Burgh in 1956 was 7,900 per gram, including three over 100,000 per gram.

During the year three premises were registered for the storage and sale of ice cream. Two of these were primarily registered while the other was re-registered on account of a change of ownership. After a period of approximately six months, one of the aforementioned registrations was cancelled due to the premises being included in a road widening scheme and vacated for demolition. Two new vehicles specially designed for retailing ice cream were also registered. These vehicles replaced two old and hygienically unsuitable vehicles whose registrations were cancelled. At the end of the year the following registrations were in operation:—

Premises—Manufacture, storage, and sale	10
Premises—Storage and sale	12
Vehicles	7

Eighty-eight visits of inspection (including sixteen to retailing vehicles) were made regarding the manufacture, storage, and sale of ice cream, when it was found necessary to serve eleven intimations and give twenty verbal warnings in respect of certain unsatisfactory conditions found on inspection.

In one registered factory a new and larger refrigerator was installed to supersede an old existing unit, while one manufacturer, on account of high bacterial counts partly renewed and overhauled his freezing equipment. It was found necessary to reprimand one manufacturer on account of the unhygienic condition of his premises and to stress that absolute cleanliness at all times is essential, particularly in regard to the sterilisation of plant and equipment. Several vendors retailing from vehicles were warned in respect of the general cleanliness of the vehicle and their personal hygiene. It is true to say that these vehicles were equipped with all the necessary fittings, towel, soap, and nail brush, but these, unfortunately, were not being fully used as intended. Vendors retailing at public gatherings, especially in weather congenial to the sale of

ice cream, are in most cases more concerned in selling their commodity than in ensuring the inestimable advantage of its being safe for human consumption.

Bacteriological Examination:

During the year eighty-one samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination and based on the recognised standard of not more than 100,000 bacteria per gram and no coliform bacillus in 1/100th gram the results were as follows, viz.:—

Number of samples taken	81
B. Coli.	Present in 8
Bacteria per gram	Average of 81 samples—7,900

Bacteria per Gram.	100 or less	1,000 or less	1,000 to 5,000	5,000 to 10,000	10,000 to 50,000	50,000 to 100,000	Over 100,000
Number of samples ..	23	25	19	4	6	1	3

Methylene Blue Test:

Grade.. .. .	I.	II.	III.	IV.
Number of samples.. .. .	24	21	23	13

When unsatisfactory results were received, the premises concerned were inspected and repeat samples taken. Most of the unsatisfactory results were due to carelessness on the part of the owner or the staff in the proper cleansing and sterilisation of plant and equipment. Two manufacturers as mentioned in last year's report are still producing ice cream from "cold mix," largely on account of the ease with which the mixture can be prepared.

Chemical:

The Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1953:

Six formal and eight informal samples were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis, and all were reported to conform to the requirements of the above Order.

The maximum fat content of these fourteen samples was 10.53 per cent., the minimum 5.07 per cent., and the average 6.86 per cent., while the average of the milk solids other than fat was 9.15 per cent. and sugar 13.58 per cent.

% Fat.	Less than 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	Over 10
Number of Samples,	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	2	3	—	1

The above results show that there has been a slight increase in quality over last year, but lower than that obtaining in 1954.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

There were six complaints lodged during the year and of these one related to Salvage and the remainder to Cleansing, from which it may rightly be assumed that the Cleansing Department continues to function in a more or less satisfactory manner, a state of affairs which is not easy of attainment in these days of staff difficulties.

As mentioned in previous reports it is still extremely difficult for the Cleansing Service to attract and retain an adequate labour force.

Cleansing Centre:

Reference was made last year to the progress of the new Cleansing Centre in Elgin Street and it is now a matter for congratulation that at the end of the year under review, this Depot was nearing completion, being actually opened for service in February 1957.

The site for this Cleansing Centre was chosen because of its size and situation, the former being considered ample for all reasonable present and future requirements, and the latter at the lower end of Dunfermline, being thought most advantageous for the transportation of refuse should it prove necessary ultimately, to provide a refuse disposal plant in the Burgh. This arrangement would permit of the centralising of all the various and diverse cleansing functions of the Council.

The site by reason of its contours, also facilitated development on different levels, thus ensuring adequate loading facilities for lorries transporting salt, gritting, and salvaged materials, while there is a railway siding in close proximity for the despatch of articles necessitating rail transport.

The preparation of plans and specifications etc., was entrusted to Messrs. John Fraser & Son, Architects, and Messrs. Wilkinson & Lowe, Quantity Surveyors, Dunfermline, whose plans, drawn up in consultation with the technical officers concerned, were approved by the Town Council and the Secretary of State for Scotland. Thereafter, the Town Council, in consultation with the Department of Health for Scotland, accepted tenders, amounting to approximately

£124,000 for the erection of the Depot, work on the project commencing in May 1955.

The site which was formerly occupied by a Linen Factory, extends to approximately 5 acres in area. There are two distinct levels, the main buildings being grouped on the upper level which is 10 ft. above the lower level. On the lower level, the building to hold the Snow Clearing Equipment has been erected, a site has been earmarked for the erection of a Refuse Disposal Plant, as and when it is required, and the remainder will be used as a Snow Tip draining into the burn which forms the South boundary of the site. The main buildings, which are sited round a central yard, are the Administration and Welfare Block, General Stores, Salvage Depot and Salt and Grit Stores, Garage, Maintenance and Repair Workshop.

Administration and Welfare Block:

This building which is on two floors, comprises a General Office, Pay and Timekeeping Office with Muster Hall on the ground floor; on the upper floors there are two private offices for Transport and Cleansing Officials. The remainder of the ground floor, which is entered by a separate door, is occupied on the ground floor by the Locker Room, which has a clean and dirty locker for each man, Spray Baths, wash hand basins, W.C.s, etc. The accommodation is designed to serve a maximum of 80 men. The remainder of the upper floor is occupied by a Recreation Room, Mess Room, and there is also a Drying Room, access to which is from the Locker Room. The construction of this building is load bearing brick walls with Reinforced Pre-cast Concrete Floor and Roof Slabs. The walls are roughcast with panels of Facing Brick.

General Stores Building:

This is a single storey building accommodating a General Store, a Bin Store, and a Street Barrow Store. It contains also the Weighbridge Office and Storeman's Office. The construction of the building is again load bearing brick walls with Reinforced Pre-cast Concrete Roof Slabs. The walls are roughcast.

Salvage Depot, Salt and Grit Stores:

The part of this building used for salvage is 120 ft. 0 ins. by 44 ft. 0 ins. The building has been sited in such a way that advantage can be taken of the difference in levels to form loading bays. Salvage, Salt and Grit can be delivered by vehicle right into the building from the yard and after being dealt with can be

loaded direct on to vehicles standing at the lower level. The construction of this building is again load bearing brick walls, with Reinforced Pre-cast Concrete Roof Slabs, but in the portion dealing with salvage, the roof is formed by steel trusses covered with Asbestos Sheeting. There is a height clearance of 15 ft. 0 ins. to allow for the tipping of Cleansing vehicles.

Garage, Maintenance and Repair Workshop:

The requirement for this garage was that there should be no floor obstruction and that it should hold 30 large and 20 small vehicles, any one of which could be taken out without moving another vehicle. The floor area of 15 ft. 0 ins. to the underside of the Main with a head room of 15 ft. 0 ins. to the underside of the Main roof trusses in order to accommodate the Tower Wagon.

Separate from but attached to the garage is the Maintenance and Repair Workshop. This gives facilities for refuelling, washing, greasing, and maintenance in that order, with the necessary inspection pits, etc. Alongside this area are stores for spare parts, tyres, grease and oil, also the Foreman's Office and toilet accommodation for the engineering staff.

This is a steel framed building, the roof is of cantilever construction, with "Northern Lights" as the only method of natural lighting. The roof is covered with Asbestos Sheeting. The walls are brick and roughcast.

Snow Clearing Depot:

This building is 60 ft. by 30 ft. The purpose of this building is that the snow plough and other snow clearing equipment may be coupled up to their vehicle and yet remain under cover during inclement weather. The construction is similar to the other buildings.

The yard and approach roads are constructed of Reinforced Concrete with areas left for grass plots and shrubbery.

The scheme is to be completed by the erection of four 4-apartment houses. These houses will be occupied by key workers in the Cleansing and Transport Departments.

Street Cleansing:

Once again it was the endeavour of the Department to continue the existing street cleansing service by the employment of a sufficient

force of street orderlies, assisted, when necessary by a mechanical sweeper and a pavement sweeper, as a result of which 847 tons of material were collected from the streets and pavements within the Burgh.

Unfortunately it is again necessary to comment adversely on the litter problem, which, despite the provision of litter bins in most of the busy areas of the city, still persists and one is reluctantly compelled to suggest the use of more drastic measures, such as appear to obtain with success in certain countries abroad.

The onus of emptying and resealing the street gullies still rests with the Cleansing Department and 4,436 gullies were so dealt with last year, resulting in the removal by means of the S.D. Gully and Cesspit Emptier of 270 tons of sludge and grit.

Another duty devolving upon the Cleansing Department is the removal of snow from the whole of the urban area of the Town, and in the period under review, 3,421 tons of snow were uplifted, at a cost of £4,048, 1s. 0d. inclusive of salt, external haulage, and labour.

Refuse Collection:

There were 11,051 tons of domestic refuse collected during the year, the daily yield being 30 tons, 5.56 cwts. The system of collection remained as hitherto, namely a kerbside collection performed with certain exceptions during the forenoon on a twice weekly basis.

While there was no augmentation nor replacement of vehicles, the opportunity was taken to acquire a second-hand mechanical shovel, which is to be used both for loading ashes, refuse, etc., and also for work on the various refuse coups, and already experience has proved the wisdom of this acquisition.

Regarding the remarks made last year, it is of interest to state that the benefits of the new workshop and its varied facilities are already apparent, particularly to the staff most intimately concerned and it is submitted that this must of necessity reflect beneficially on the customer departments, all of whom appear to be still receiving satisfactory service at reasonable cost.

Refuse Disposal:

The Cleansing Department is still very favourably placed so far as disposal facilities are concerned and even yet it has not proved

possible to make complete use of all the coups presently available, although these will be required in due course. Probably the major development took place at Halbeath Coup, where due to the purchase by the British Railways of a portion of this coup as a site for a waggon repair depot, it was necessary to allow their Contractors to infill this part, for which purpose material was excavated from the remainder of the coup, thereby resulting in a more or less *quid pro quo* position.

As mentioned on former occasions the very necessary and sometimes very exacting task of controlling these coups is very materially assisted by the use of the Traxcavator, which, by reason of its versatility and manoeuvrability, is so ubiquitous in its sphere of operation.

The amount of refuse disposed of and the quantity of boiler ashes and soil used for top dressing on the coups in use during the year ending 15th May 1956, are shown in the table hereunder, viz.:—

Coups.	House Refuse. Tons.	Sweep- ings. Tons.	Shop Refuse. Tons.	Man- ure. Tons.	Other Refuse. Tons.	Gullies. Tons.	Boiler Ashes. Tons.	Soil Tons.	Snow. Tons.	Total Tons.
Buffie's Brae	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	218	218
Halbeath	1,232	105	30	10	93	238	351	1,413	—	3,472
Muircockhall	3,828	425	375	502	963	9	1,581	5,079	—	12,762
Pattiesmuir	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rosyth.. . . .	5,991	317	89	2	169	23	1,302	1,578	—	9,471
Totals	11,051	847	494	514	1,225	270	3,234	8,070	218	25,923

Salvage:

The Salvage scheme continued to operate throughout the period under review and 1,058 $\frac{3}{4}$ tons of material were collected realising on sale the sum of £6,809, 11s. 9d.

The following tables show the amount of materials collected under the scheme, viz.:—

SUMMARY OF SALVAGE COLLECTED IN THE BURGH AND RECEIPTS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 1956.

Material	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Destructor Scrap	60	2	2	410	6	5
Glass	27	15	1	42	16	9
Kitchen Waste	276	13	2	1,072	4	5
Metals—Black Scrap.. . . .	29	5	—	103	15	10
—Non-Ferrous	—	7	1	14	13	9
Miscellaneous.. . . .	—	14	2	13	13	0
Paper	657	13	3	5,085	3	10
Textiles	6	3	3	66	17	9
Total Weights	1,058 tons, 15 ewts., 2 qrs.					
Gross Receipts	£6,809 11 9					
Nett Receipts	£829 15 7					
Yield per 1,000 of population per annum	£151 6 5					
Yield per 1,000 population per month	£12 12 2 $\frac{1}{2}$					
Yield per person per annum	£0 3 0 $\frac{1}{4}$					

SUMMARY OF SALVAGE COLLECTED IN THE BURGH AND
RECEIPTS RECEIVED FROM THE INCEPTION OF SALVAGE SCHEME
IN NOVEMBER 1939 TO 31st DECEMBER 1956.

Material	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Batteries	80	5	—	42	9	0
Bottles (28,708 dozen)	82	—	3	743	4	8
Bones	123	6	1	373	3	6
Destructor Scrap	1,876	16	—	4,888	4	3
Footwear	6	1	2	40	9	6
Glass	1,115	17	3	1,189	3	10
Kitchen Waste	8,958	—	—	20,734	12	7
Metals—Black Scrap	877	16	1	2,023	9	4
—Non-Ferrous	41	5	—	855	10	6
Miscellaneous	133	18	1	229	5	9
Paper	8,745	7	—	59,288	9	5
Rubber	46	19	2	92	13	1
Straw	47	8	3	162	9	7
Textiles	249	9	1	2,381	7	10
Total Weight	22,384 tons, 19 cwts., 1 qr.					
Gross Receipts	£93,044 12 10					
Nett Receipts	£35,529 2 7					
Yield per 1,000 population	£2,067 13 2					
Yield per 1,000 population per month	£10 0 8½					
Yield per person	£2 1 4					

County Salvage:

The arrangement, whereby the adjoining area of the County Council has its salvaged materials handled, sorted, and disposed of, continued to operate and on this occasion 31 tons, 6¾ cwts. of material were so dealt with, resulting, when sold, in a payment to that Authority of the sum of £153. 0s. 3d.

Service Authorities:

A similar arrangement obtains with the local Service Authorities, to whom a sum of £2. 3s. 6d. was paid in respect of 1 ton, 1¾ cwts. of destructor scrap.

Public Conveniences:

There were no new conveniences provided and no major renovations carried out during the year, but there was some progress achieved relative to the purchase of a suitable site for the erection of new toilet rooms in the Rumblingwell area, a matter which has caused the Council considerable concern for a fairly protracted period.

The work of supervision and cleansing continued as formerly, with a view to providing adequate facilities of a hygienic nature but it is with a certain feeling of despondency if not actual despair that once again it is necessary to comment upon the extent and

nature of the vandalism committed at and upon these most essential structures. This apparently senseless destruction and its undesirable repercussions have been a constant source of worry to the management, who have invoked the aid of all available forces of law and order, despite which, the orgy still persists, defying all attempts either to advance any rational excuse for or a satisfactory solution to this persistent and chronic blemish in the body politic.

The supervision of these premises cost £4,974, 15s. 5d. and the sum of £1,436, 2s. 7d. was spent on repairs and supplies, while the revenue amounted to £1,593, 4s 0d.

Costs:

The hours of labour and the cost of wages for the various duties undertaken by the Cleansing Department during the year ended 15th May 1956, are shown in the following table, in which figures for the previous year are included for comparison, *viz.*:—

Class of Work.	15th May 1956.		15th May 1955.	
	Hours.	Wages.	Hours.	Wages.
Refuse Collection	34,535½	£5,906 15 9	30,728½	£4,975 12 2
Refuse Disposal.. .. .	32,948½	£5,702 12 4	28,397½	£4,536 16 11
Street Sweepings	86,414	£14,519 7 11	80,591½	£12,062 4 9
Salvage	23,198¾	£3,887 5 1	22,394¼	£3,604 15 3
Cleansing and maintenance of Freighters and Depots	4,802	£941 8 10	4,199	£773 15 1
Public Conveniences.. .. .	36,258	£5,271 1 1	33,888½	£4,566 11 10
Vehicles Disinfected (Diseases of Animals Act)	529	£85 1 0	480½	£70 17 9
Removal Slaughterhouse Offal and Manure	1,108½	£196 9 5	1,053	£197 14 4
Trade Refuse (Collection and Disposal)	1,351½	£239 6 1	1,224¾	£204 3 1
Snow Clearing	5,382¾	£937 7 8	9,960¼	£1,683 18 7
Gritting	595½	£116 18 0	654	£110 15 0
* Other Payments.. .. .	—	£3,204 3 10	—	£3,005 19 10
	227,124	£41,007 17 0	213,572	£35,793 4 7

* Other Payments include Administration, Holiday Pay, Annual Holidays. Sick Pay. Etc.

The gross cost of operating the Cleansing Service during the financial year 1955/56 was £70,117, 2s. 9d. and the revenue was £15,270, 13s. 3d. the nett cost being £54,846, 9s. 6d.

The following statistics were obtained from the above costs and the tonnage shown under refuse disposal, *viz.*:—

Total quantity of house and trade refuse	12,770 tons.
Weight per head of population	5.54 cwt.s.
Daily yield per 1000 population	14,669 cwt.s.
Yearly yield per 1000 population	267.71 tons.
Nett cost of collection of 1 ton of house and trade refuse	22s. 2.1 d.
Nett cost of disposal of 1 ton of house and trade refuse	12s. 4.71d.
Nett cost of collection and disposal per ton	34s. 6.81d.
Nett cost per person per year for cleansing services	24s. 1.1 d.
Nett cost per person per day for cleansing services	0s. 0.79d.

Acknowledgment: •

As in previous years I have again been indebted to the members of the Town Council and in particular the members of the Health and Cleansing Committees for their continued support and encouragement, while I am also appreciative of the help afforded me by the other Corporation Officials.

The Staff and employees have co-operated loyally and to them I would express my appreciation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

ALEX. H. DUNCAN,

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Cleansing.

Appendix 1.

Nuisances and General Inspections.

Number of complaints received (of which 3 were unjustified)	468
Number of written intimations issued	151
Number of verbal intimations issued	158
Number of second notices issued	29
Number of inspections, Section 115, Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892	8
Number of notices issued under Section 115, Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892 ..	2
Number of inspections, Section 117, Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892	406
Number of notices issued under Section 117, Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892 ..	249
Number of notices issued under Section 119, Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892 ..	12
Number of notices issued under Section 381 (36), Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892.	3
Houses let in Lodgings inspections	19
Number of written intimations issued	Nil.
Number of verbal intimations issued	4
Common Lodging House inspections	45
Number of written intimations issued	2
Number of verbal intimations issued	11
Rag Flock inspections	4
Bakery inspections	113
Number of written intimations issued	20
Number of verbal intimations issued	7
Factories Acts, 1937-48, inspections	485
Number of written intimations issued	35
Number of verbal intimations issued	61
Places of Public Refreshment inspections	98
Number of written intimations issued	11
Number of verbal intimations issued	24
Places of Public Entertainment inspections	20
Number of written intimations issued	8
Premises used for the preparation of food inspections	71
Number of written intimations issued	8
Number of verbal intimations issued	14
Premises used for the manufacture and for the retail of ice cream inspections ..	38
Number of written intimations issued	11
Number of verbal intimations issued	20
Licensed Premises inspections	39
Number of written intimations issued	13
Number of verbal intimations issued	4
Merchandise Marks Act inspections	36
Number of written intimations issued	8
Number of verbal intimations issued	14
Shops Act inspections	606
Number of written intimations issued	63
Number of verbal intimations issued	38
Tents, Vans, and Sheds inspections	20
Number of written intimations issued	4
Number of verbal intimations issued	2
Cattle Market inspections	27
Number of written intimations issued	1
Number of verbal intimations issued	8
Rivers Pollution inspections	6

Appendix 1 (Continued).

Number of written intimations issued	Nil.
Number of verbal intimations issued	2
Pet Animals Act inspections	7
Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act inspections	9
Creamery inspections	28
Dairy inspections	48
Piggery inspections	8
Slaughterhouse inspections	23
Smoke observations	64
Number of written intimations issued	4
Number of verbal intimations issued	12
Colour testing drainage	53
Smoke testing drainage	216
Final tests to fittings	13

Appendix 2.

Infectious Diseases.

Number of visits to places where infectious diseases occurred	48
Apartments disinfected	61
Articles disinfected (estimate)	2,880
Articles destroyed after deaths of phthisical patients	Nil.
Notices issued under Section 50, 53, and 57 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897	52
Supplies of disinfectant issued	271
Notices issued to H.M. Dockyard, etc.	5
Sets of bedding replaced	Nil.

Appendix 3.

New Houses Let.

Scheme.	OC.	H. OC.	TB. OC.	UF. OC.	C/O.	TB. C/O.	TB.	H.	UF.	TRAN.	EX.	PRI.	A.P.	S.P.	TRAN. OB.	Totals.
Aberdour Road ...	66	21	4	22	12	—	1	4	11	9	1	4	7	9	—	171
Aberdour Road (Miners S.S.H.A.),	12	2	—	—	8	1	—	—	—	4	—	23	—	—	2	52
Leny Place Gap Site,	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	8
St Leonard's Gap Site	1	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	11
Totals ...	79	29	4	25	20	1	1	4	18	13	1	27	9	9	2	242

Scheme	1-Apt.	2-Apts.	3-Apts.	4-Apts.	5-Apts.	6-Apts.	Totals.
Aberdour Road	—	16	69	86	—	—	171
Aberdour Road (Miners' S.S.H.A.)	—	—	26	26	—	—	52
Leny Place (Gap Site) ..	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
St Leonard's (Gap Site),	8	—	2	1	—	—	11
Totals.. . . .	16	16	97	113	—	—	242

Month.	1-Apt.	2-Apts.	3-Apts.	4-Apts.	5-Apts.	6-Apts.	Totals.
January	—	—	12	17	—	—	29
February	—	4	14	20	—	—	38
March	—	—	20	12	—	—	32
April	—	4	12	10	—	—	26
May	—	—	5	12	—	—	17
June	—	—	2	16	—	—	18
July	—	—	—	6	—	—	6
August	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September	—	—	8	4	—	—	12
October	8	—	16	8	—	—	32
November	4	8	8	4	—	—	24
December	4	—	—	4	—	—	8
Total	16	16	97	113	—	—	242

Included in the above are 26 houses of 3-apartments and 26 houses of 4-apartments built by the S.S.H.A., Ltd., at the Aberdour Road (Fourth Development) Housing Scheme

Housing Inspections.**(a) General.**

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Inspections... ..	36	29	38	42	26	17	18	6	—	12	32	24	280
Re-Inspections	68	78	24	34	22	24	27	49	39	42	44	176	627
Totals... ..	104	107	62	76	48	41	45	55	39	54	76	200	907

(b) Inspections Regarding Cleanliness.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Corporation owned ..	10	11	14	12	6	9	9	17	12	13	15	12	140
Privately owned	7	7	6	8	3	3	5	2	2	2	4	5	54
Totals... ..	17	18	20	20	9	12	14	19	14	15	19	17	194

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Written notices issued...	—	4	—	3	—	—	1	2	1	—	1	—	12
Verbal warnings issued,	8	6	8	6	3	3	5	7	4	4	4	3	61
Notices under Section 159 requiring admission...	2	2	—	3	—	1	1	3	1	1	4	—	18

Number of Houses 76

Number of Written Notices 12

Number of Verbal Warnings 61

Appendix 5. Number of Families Re-housed and Reasons for Re-housing.

Scheme.	OC.	H. OC.	TB. OC.	UF. OC.	C/O.	TB. C/O.	TB.	H.	UF.	TRAN.	EX.	PRI.	AP.	TRAN. OB.	Totals
Aberdour Road ..	72	24	4	22	14	—	2	4	13	13	25	11	10	—	214
Aberdour Road (Miners)	11	2	1	—	8	1	—	—	—	5	13	23	—	9	73
Baldridgeburn ..	2	—	—	—	9	1	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	17
Bellycoman	2	—	2	6	1	—	—	—	4	2	22	1	2	—	42
Brucelie d.	4	3	—	1	5	2	—	—	1	4	17	1	—	—	38
Burnside	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	8
Camdean	1	—	—	1	6	3	—	—	—	—	4	2	—	—	17
Chamberfield .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
Headwell	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	2	14	1	—	—	20
Kingseat	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3
Milton Green .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Parkneuk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Park Road West ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
St Leonard's .. .	1	3	—	3	1	—	—	—	4	2	14	—	1	1	30
Townhill	—	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	2	6	—	—	—	14
Old Property .. .	—	—	—	1	7	—	—	—	3	1	1	—	—	—	13
Woodmill Miners.	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3
Whirlbut	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Rosyth Halt .. .	3	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	9
Rumblingwell .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
	96	34	8	39	58	8	2	4	28	34	135	39	13	10	508

	OC.	H. OC.	TB. OC.	UF. OC.	C/O.	TB. C/O.	TB.	H.	UF.	TRAN.	EX.	PRI.	AP.	TRAN. OB.	Totals
January-June .. .	71	25	6	11	40	6	1	2	11	26	67	33	8	5	312
July-December ..	25	9	2	28	18	2	1	2	17	8	68	6	5	5	196
	96	34	8	39	58	8	2	4	28	34	135	39	13	10	508

The 39 Priority Applicants mentioned above include 32 Admiralty Special Priority Applicants

Appendix 5 (Continued).

Number of Persons and Units Re-housed into New Houses.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Adults	72	95	80	61	46	53	19	—	26	70	46	12	580
Children	35	47	36	28	19	21	8	—	15	13	14	8	244
Total	107	142	116	89	65	74	27	—	41	83	60	20	824
Units	89½	118½	98	75	55½	63½	23	—	33½	76½	53	16	702

Number of Persons and Units Re-housed.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Adults	140	134	142	188	100	95	63	41	92	109	111	51	1,266
Children	63	56	55	82	35	40	23	16	29	32	35	19	485
Total	203	190	197	270	135	135	86	57	121	141	146	70	1,751
Units	171½	162	169½	229	117½	115	74½	49	106½	125	128½	60½	1,508½

Key:

OC.—Overcrowded.

UF.—Unfit.

C/O.—Sub-tenant (living in lodgings).

TB.—Tuberculosis (all kinds).

AP.—Aged Persons.

H.—Health.

TRAN.—Transfer.

EX.—Exchange.

PRI.—Priority.

OB.—Outwith Burgh.

Persons under 10 years reckoned as child—½ unit.

Persons over 10 years reckoned as adult—1 unit.

Appendix 6. Houses Closed 1956.

Ward	1-Apt.	2-Apts.	3-Apts.	4-Apts.	5-Apts. and over.	Total.
1	15	34	8	—	—	57
2	1	10	—	—	—	11
3	8	29	10	1	—	48
4	—	—	1	—	—	1
5	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals .. .	24	73	19	1	—	117

	1-Apt.	2-Apts.	3-Apts.	4-Apts.	5-Apts. and over.	Total.
Dunfermline.. .	24	62	19	1	—	106
Townhill .. .	—	5	—	—	—	5
Kingsseat .. .	—	6	—	—	—	6
Pattiesmuir .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals .. .	24	73	19	1	—	117

Appendix 7. Houses Represented.

	1-Apt.	2-Apts.	3-Apts.	4-Apts.	5-Apts. and over.	Total.
1950-53 .. .	27	74	12	2	2	117
1954 .. .	8	11	7	—	—	26
1955 .. .	13	49	6	1	1	70
1956 .. .	33	82	34	3	3	155

Appendix 8. Houses Inhabited.

Locus.	Private.	Corporation.	Admiralty.	S.N.H.C.	S.S.H.A.	Totals
Dunfermline .. .	5,664	3,161	372	—	614	9,811
Rosyth .. .	87	494	832	1,872	—	3,285
Townhill .. .	254	281	—	—	—	535
Kingsseat .. .	106	35	—	—	—	141
Pattiesmuir.. .	14	—	—	—	—	14
Seggsburn .. .	14	—	—	—	—	14
Landward .. .	79	—	—	—	—	79
Totals.. .	6,218	3,971	1,204	1,872	614	13,879

Key: S.N.H.C.—Scottish National Housing Company.

S.S.H.A.—Scottish Special Housing Association, Ltd.

Corporation Houses — Only refer to houses built by Local Authority, under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1919, and subsequent Housing Acts

Appendix 9.

Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) Order, 1951.

No. of Samples Taken.	Designation.	Conform.	Non-Conform.
19	Certified.	16	3
116	Tuberculin Teste.	90	26
90	Pasteurised.	86	4
<u>225</u>		<u>192</u>	<u>33</u>

The following table shows the counts upon which these samples failed:—

Designation.	Presence of B. Coli.	Bacterial Count.	Bacterial Count and Presence of B.Coli.	Phosphatase Test.	Total.
Certified	2	1	—	—	3
Tuberculin Tested..	18	3	5	—	26
Pasteurised.. . . .	3	—	—	1	4
Total	23	4	5	1	33

Appendix 10.

Unsound Food.

The undernoted list of foodstuffs was dealt with under Section 43 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, and Section 9 of the Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956, the former having been repealed by the latter in August of the year under review, *viz.*:—

TINNED FOODSTUFFS.	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Apples	—	—	—	17	3
Apricots	—	—	1	3	15½
Bacon	—	1	—	1	—
Beans	—	1	1	17	¼
Beans and Sausage	—	—	—	1	8
Beef Steak	—	—	—	7	11
Brisket Beef	—	3	2	1	—
Carrots	—	—	—	10	3½
Cherries	—	—	—	19	6
Chicken	—	—	3	—	1
Chopped Pork	—	2	3	7	5
Coffee	—	—	—	1	—
Condensed Milk	—	—	—	26	8
Corned Beef	—	18	—	5	½
Corned Mutton	—	6	1	17	—
Cream	—	—	—	9	11½
Creamed Rice	—	—	—	11	11½
Evaporated Milk	—	2	—	1	7
Frozen Egg	—	—	2	16	—
Fruit Salad	—	—	2	21	8½
Gammon	—	4	—	11	14½
Golden Corn	—	—	—	1	4
Golden Syrup	—	—	—	8	—
Gooseberries	—	—	—	—	14
Carry forward	2	2	2	22	4½

Appendix 10 (Continued).

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Brought forward	2	2	2	22	4½
Grapefruit	—	—	3	8	5½
Ham	1	7	2	11	15
Jam	—	—	—	22	—
Jellied Veal	—	6	3	5	11
Luncheon Meat	—	10	3	5	9½
Macaroni	—	—	—	12	—
Marmalade	—	—	—	6	—
Mince and Beans	—	—	—	—	10
Mince and Peas	—	—	—	20	10
Mincemeat Loaf	—	—	3	7	—
Mixed Vegetables	—	—	—	2	2½
Mushrooms	—	—	—	—	4
Oranges	—	—	2	18	7
Orange Juice	—	—	—	10	12
Ox Tongue	—	5	2	10	2½
Peaches	—	—	3	17	2½
Pears	1	—	2	14	1
Peas	—	3	2	20	2½
Pilchards	—	—	—	9	12
Pineapple	—	1	2	27	9
Pineapple Juice	—	—	—	1	4
Paté De Foies	—	—	—	1	6
Plums	—	—	2	21	2
Pressed Veal and Pork	—	1	1	4	—
Raspberries	—	—	—	4	15
Red Socra	—	—	—	1	15
Rhubarb	—	—	—	5	15
Rice	—	—	—	1	—
Salmon	—	—	—	18	5½
Sardines	—	—	—	4	8
Soup	—	2	2	13	14½
Spaghetti	—	—	—	2	—
Steak and Kidney Pic	—	—	—	10	—
Stewed Steak	—	—	3	23	7
Strawberries	—	—	—	19	10½
Tomatoes	—	1	—	—	6½
Tomato Juice	—	—	—	16	8
Tomato Purée	—	—	—	6	—½
Tripe and Onions	—	—	—	1	13
	6	11	—	—	11½

OTHER FOODSTUFFS.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Butter	—	—	—	1	—
Confectionery	—	—	2	14	4
Meat	—	—	2	26	—
Poultry	—	—	1	24	—
	—	1	3	9	4

Appendix 11.

(a) Formal Samples.

No. of Samples Taken.	Nature.	Genuine.	Non-Genuine.
1	Brandy	1	—
4	Fish Cakes	4	—
1	Gin .. .	1	—
6	Ice Cream	6	—
21	Milk	21	—
16	Mince	15	1
1	Rum	1	—
24	Sausages	24	—
18	Whisky	18	—
92		91	1

(b) Informal Samples.

No. of Samples Taken.	Nature.	Genuine.	Non-Genuine.
5	Aerated Waters	5	—
3	Baking Powder	3	—
2	Baking Soda	2	—
1	Barley	1	—
1	Beeswax	1	—
1	Beer	1	—
3	Borax	3	—
1	Bovril	1	—
6	Butter	6	—
1	Castor Oil	1	—
3	Cheese	3	—
2	Cocoa	2	—
2	Coffee	2	—
1	Calomel Ointment	1	—
2	Condensed Milk	2	—
4	Crab Meat	4	—
1	Cream	1	—
1	Cream of Tartar	1	—
1	Curry Powder	1	—
1	Dates	1	—
2	Dried Milk	2	—
1	Dried Mint	1	—
1	Epsom Salts	1	—
2	Fish Cakes	2	—
3	Fish Paste	3	—
4	Flour	4	—
2	Fruit Chutney	2	—
1	Gelatine	1	—
2	Headache Powders	2	—
1	Honey	1	—
1	Horlicks	1	—
8	Ice Cream	8	—
4	Jam	4	—
2	Jellies	2	—
2	Lard	2	—
1	Lemonade Powder	1	—
1	Lemon Curd	1	—
5	Margarine	5	—
85	Carry forward	85	—

Appendix II (Continued).

No. of Samples Taken.	Nature.	Genuine.	Non-Genuine.
85	Brought forward	85	—
2	Marmalade	2	—
2	Meat Paste	2	—
1	Mercury Ointment	1	—
1	Mince Meat	1	—
3	Milk	3	—
2	Mustard	2	—
1	Oxo Cubes	1	—
2	Peas	2	—
1	Pepper	1	—
2	Pickles	2	—
1	Pineapples	1	—
1	Pork and Beans	1	—
1	Sago	1	—
4	Saccharin	4	—
2	Salad Cream	2	—
1	Sandwich Spread	1	—
1	Spaghetti	1	—
1	Suet	1	—
1	Syrup	1	—
1	Syrup of Figs	1	—
3	Shredded Beef Suet	3	—
9	Soup	9	—
1	Sugar	1	—
2	Tea	2	—
2	Treacle	2	—
1	Vinegar	1	—
1	Whipping	1	—
1	Gregories Powder	1	—
1	Sauce	1	—
<u>137</u>		<u>137</u>	<u>—</u>

Appendix 12.

Summary of Costs of Services Undertaken by Cleansing Department 1955-56.

POPULATION (ESTIMATED) 45,700.

Service. (1)	Interest and Sinking Fund. (2)		Other Expenditure. (3)		Total Gross Expenditure. (4)		Revenue. (5)		Nett Cost. (6)		Nett cost per head of population.			
											1955-56. (7)		1954-55. (8)	
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	s.	d.
(a) Street Cleansing, including watering, washing, gully cleansing, disposal of street sweepings, gritting, and snow removal ..	448	0	0	26,321	10	1	203	6	3	26,566	3	10	11	8.58
(b) Refuse Collection, i.e., house, trade, garden, shop, and miscellaneous refuse	448	0	0	14,548	6	10	837	3	2	14,159	3	8	6	2.35
(c) Refuse Disposal, i.e., house, trade, garden, shop, and miscellaneous refuse	448	0	0	7,959	17	7	495	7	3	7,912	10	4	3	5.55
(d) Public Conveniences,	350	0	0	8,177	8	5	1,694	16	9	6,832	11	8	2	11.88
(e) Other Services	0	0	0	3,952	15	9	4,112	12	6	-159	16	9	-0	0.83
(f) Salvage	447	0	0	7,016	4	1	7,927	7	4	-464	3	3	-0	2.43
	£2,141	0	0	£67,976	2	9	£15,270	13	3	£54,846	9	6	24	1.10
													22	6.4

Nett yield of 1d rate (1955-56) was £1,845, and cleansing costs therefore represent approximately a 2s. 6d. rate.

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

REPORT

BY

G. K. PLUMMER, Social Services Officer

ANNUAL REPORT

PROVISION OF WELFARE SERVICES under Section 29 of the National Assistance Act.

(a) Blind Persons.

The Fife Society for the Blind continued to act as the Town Council's agent for the provision of welfare services to blind persons. In view of a general increase in the cost of providing such services the Society asked the Town Council to give reconsideration to an increase in the *per capita* grant and, after discussion with the Society, the Town Council agreed to increase the grant from £5 to £7. 10s. per year from 16th May 1955.

Agreement was also reached between the Society and the Town Council with regard to the compilation of a register of partially sighted persons. The Society undertook to compile a register of partially sighted persons in the Dunfermline area and the Town Council agreed to pay the Society the sum of £1 in respect of every person who appeared on this register for the year ending 15th May 1957, after which the position is to be reviewed. This initial step in a new field of welfare consists mainly of a survey of the situation with a view to assessing the extent of the problem.

The Town Council was able this year to lease to the Social Services Department, for a temporary period, premises at 28 Priory Lane, to be used as a Welfare Centre for handicapped persons. Arrangements were made between the Fife Society for the Blind and the Fife Mission to the Deaf and Dumb for the joint use of these premises, for which the Town Council make no charge. Furnishings were supplied by the Society and the Mission.

Provost Allan performed the opening ceremony on 27th November 1956.

Three hundred and fifty-one effective visits were paid to blind persons in Dunfermline by Mr. Reid, the Society's Home Teacher for the Blind for this area. Arrangements were made for the examination of 8 persons, of whom 6 were certified as being blind within the meaning of the Blind Persons Acts and 2 as not blind.

The Society has always been greatly assisted in their work in Dunfermline by the local ladies' committee for the blind who, in addition to helping on the social side this year, assisted with the furnishing of the new Centre. Mrs. R. F. Martin, Newlands, Thistle Street, Dunfermline, succeeded Mrs. A. Buchanan as Convener of this committee in March 1956.

The following is a statistical record for the year:—

Number of persons on Blind Register at 1/1/56:—

Male 22	Female 33
---------	-----------

Number examined by Ophthalmic Surgeon:—

Male 3	Female 5
--------	----------

Number found to be Blind within the meaning of the Act:—

Male 2	Female 4
--------	----------

Number added to the Register:—

Male 3	Female 5
--------	----------

Number taken off the Register:—

Male 1 (Removed)	Female 6 (Deceased)
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Number on the Register at end of year:—

Male 24	Female 32
---------	-----------

(b) Deaf and Dumb Persons.

The Fife Mission to the Deaf and Dumb continues to provide welfare services for deaf and dumb persons in Dunfermline, and the Town Council made a *per capita* grant of £2, 10s. for the year.

Similarly as with the Fife Society for the Blind the Fife Mission has expressed appreciation of the provision of the Welfare Centre in Priory Lane, and those using the premises expressed their gratitude for the improved facilities provided. Mr. J. L. Rodger, Superintendent and Missioner, is assisted in the work of the mission in the Dunfermline area by Mr. Reid, part-time missioner for Dunfermline. Mr. Rodger acts as interpreter as required and conducts special religious services. There were 20 persons on the Mission's Register for the Dunfermline area at the close of the year. In all, 97 home visits were paid by Mr. Rodger and Mr. Reid. A recently formed branch committee for Dunfermline has been very active in providing socials for local members and also provides a supply of weekly magazines and games.

(c) Other Handicapped Persons.

There were 48 persons on the Register of General Handicapped Persons at the close of the year. The British Red Cross Society continues to assist with welfare visits to handicapped persons and, where practicable, an endeavour is made by the Society's visitors to interest them in some recreational occupation. Personal problems are dealt with direct by the Social Services Department.

PROVISION OF ACCOMMODATION

under Section 21 of the National Assistance Act.

Residential.

Davaar and Garvock House, supplying between them 35 beds for elderly women, were in the main fully occupied during the year. There was no waiting list. Garthdee, providing 18 beds for elderly men, was always fully occupied and by the end of the year there was a waiting list of six persons. Luscar was fully occupied, indeed two rooms set aside for the provision of temporary accommodation in emergency had to be used for permanent residents. At the close of the year there was a considerable waiting list. As it had been apparent for sometime that there were insufficient beds to cope satisfactorily with the need to accommodate the more infirm elderly persons the Town Council had agreed in principle to the erection of an annexe at Luscar House. Plans for such an annexe were prepared and were forwarded to the Department of Health for Scotland. The Department's reply was to the effect that the Town Council's proposal could not be considered at the moment because of the continuing restriction of local government expenditure. The Department at the same time asked the Town Council to reconsider the matter from the aspect of providing an entirely new Home, rather than building an annexe to Luscar. In view of the fact that future plans included the possibility of the provision of annexes at Davaar and Garthdee as well as at Luscar, the Town Council agreed to reconsider the whole matter on the basis of providing a new Home, and at the close of the year discussions on these lines were taking place with the Department. The restriction on local government expenditure applies equally, of course, to the provision of a new Home, but once a decision has been reached as between a new Home or annexes the preliminary planning can go ahead and this should avoid delay as and when borrowing consent can be given.

Those of the residents who were able enjoyed attending concerts in the Carnegie Hall and appreciated very much the special arrangements which enabled them to see the Gala Day procession. On festive occasions there was no difficulty in finding concert parties to provide entertainment in the Homes; film shows were also very popular. The weekly religious services conducted in the Homes are a most important feature of their life, and I would like to acknowledge the services given by the Chaplains:—The Rev. S. Boyd, Davaar; the Rev. W. McGill Thomson, Garthdee; the Rev. D. Brown, Garvock, and the Rev. V. C. Pogue, Luscar. I would also like to acknowledge the services of Dr. Beveridge, Medical Officer

for Luscar House. The Red Cross trolley shop at Luscar House is very much appreciated, and thanks are due to the members of Detachment Fife/24 (Dunfermline) who look after this service.

The following statistics give the position in each of the Homes at the beginning and end of the year:—

	No. at 1/1/56.	Admissions during year.	Discharges.	No. at 31/12/56.	No. of Vacancies.
Davaar	14	7	10	11	4
Garthdee	18	3	3	18	Nil
Garvoek	17	11	8	20	Nil
Luscar	38	22	20	40	Nil

Temporary Accommodation.

Temporary accommodation had to be provided at Luscar House on 5 occasions during the year but there was no need for provision of accommodation on any major scale.

GENERAL WELFARE.

During the year 1,755 visits were paid by members of the Social Services Department staff. These visits fell into the following categories:—

	Total.
General Welfare (Old People)	320
General Welfare (Other Classes)	159
Admissions to Residential Homes	155
Mental Health	172
Gardiner's Trust	28
Meals on Wheels	41
Chiropody	28
Sitters-in	31
Visits to Residential Homes	374
School Meals	7
Visits in connection with Burials	33
Old People's Welfare Committee	86
Visits to Hospitals concerning cases	151
Miscellaneous	170
	<hr/>
	1,755

As recorded in the Medical Officer of Health's report, 1,273 visits were paid by the health visitors to elderly persons, and a considerable number of the visits tabulated above were made in consequence of their reporting the need for one or other of the services referred to. Requests to visit were also received from many other persons as, for example, doctors, district nurses, ministers, Government Department officials, and members of voluntary organisations.

I would like to draw special attention to the visits paid to local hospitals. Good liaison between the hospitals' staffs and the local authority welfare department is essential in most fields of welfare work and perhaps especially so in relation to elderly infirm persons, and I am happy to state that a good working relationship exists between this Department and all local hospitals. During the year, at the suggestion of the South Eastern Regional Hospital Board, a meeting of officers representing Fife County Council, Kirkcaldy Town Council, Dunfermline Town Council, the Fife Executive Committee, the East Fife and West Fife Hospitals Boards of Management, and the South Eastern Regional Hospital Board, was held for the purpose of discussing plans for the development of a Hospital Geriatric Service for this area. A small working party was set up to examine the position, collate evidence and prepare a report. Arising from this I am able to say that by February 1957 a Geriatric Service had been established and it is already evident to me that this Service will be of considerable benefit in smoothing out certain difficulties which tended to arise between local authority and hospital services with regard to respective spheres of responsibility.

The Women's Voluntary Service continued to organise the Meals on Wheels Service. This is a vitally important service, and to keep such a continuous all the year round service running efficiently calls for a considerable effort on the part of the voluntary workers, and I would like to pay tribute to the Organiser and all drivers and helpers. An average of 100 meals per week were delivered. The cost to the Town Council was 2s. per meal and the charge to recipients remained at 1s. The Town Council also meets the cost of running the two vans.

The Dunfermline and Rosyth Old People's Welfare Committee continues to make a considerable contribution in the general field of old people's welfare. Apart from providing recreation by sponsoring Old People's Clubs, the respective Committees for the Dunfermline and Rosyth areas try to assist generally with the provision of emergency fuel schemes and visits to housebound old people. I particularly noted from the Rosyth Committee's Report that 75 people were benefiting from their Chiropody Service. In Dunfermline a similar service is operated by the Dunfermline District Nursing Association and 300 people were under treatment at the close of the year.

The Department is assisted greatly in its work by both the Dunfermline District Nursing Association and the local Branch of the British Red Cross Society with regard to the provision of bed

clothing, commodes, wheel chairs, back-rests, etc., and the Nursing Association also runs a scheme for the provision of a "sitter-in" service in cases of illness.

Compulsory Removals.

There was no need to take any action under the compulsory removal provisions of the National Assistance Act.

Care of Property.

Action was taken on seven occasions under Section 48 of the National Assistance Act with regard to looking after the property of persons admitted to hospitals or residential homes.

Burials.

Under Section 50 of the National Assistance Act four burials were carried out of persons who were found dead where there was no relative or friend able or willing to make the necessary arrangements.

Miscellaneous.

Arrangements for the allocation of annual grants from the Anonymous Donors' Christmas Season Coal Fund and Goodall Trust, the Gardiners' Charitable Trust, and the Cunningham Bequest, were carried out. In all 97 persons benefited from these funds.

Free School Meals.

Eighty-eight new applications were investigated, involving 208 children. Of these applications 79 were granted and 9 were refused.

At the beginning of 1956, 269 children were in receipt of free meals, and at 31st December 1956 there were 271 children receiving free school meals.

Receiving meals, 31st December 1955 ..	124	families involving	269	children.
Applications investigated during 1956 ..	88	"	208	"
Additions to previous applications	0	"	21	"
	212	"	498	"
Applications refused	9	"	20	"
	203	"	478	"
Applications granted at a reduced charge,	0	"	0	"
	203	"	478	"
Ceased	84	"	207	"
Receiving Free Meals on 31st December				
1956	119	"	271	"

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